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[ONE PENNY.]



THE FATAL CATASTROPHE AT THE VICTORIA MUSIC HALL, MANCHESTER.



## IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

## PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT.

PARLIAMENT was prorogued on Friday by royal commission. The commissioners were the Lord Chancellor, the Earl of Malmesbury, the Duke of Buckingham, the Earl of Devon, and the Duke of Beaufort. Shortly after two o'clock the commissioners, in their robes, took their seats upon a bench in front of the throne. The attendance of peers was very limited. The Earl of Malmesbury, the Earl of Longford, the Duke of Marlborough, and Lord Clinton represented the Government. The front Opposition bench was altogether deserted, but in other parts of the House were Lord Redesdale, Lord Churston, Lord Hawarden, and Lord Denman. A few peers occupied seats on the back Opposition benches, and one or two visitors were in the strangers' gallery. Altogether the proceedings appeared to be devoid of interest. The Lord Chancellor read her Majesty's speech as follows:—

"My Lords and Gentlemen,—I am happy to be enabled to release you from your labours, and to offer you my acknowledgments for the diligence with which you have applied yourselves to your parliamentary duties. My relations with foreign Powers remain friendly and satisfactory. I have no reason to apprehend that Europe will be exposed to the calamity of war, and my policy will continue to be directed to secure the blessings of peace. I announced to you at the beginning of this session that I had directed an expedition to be sent to Abyssinia to liberate my envoy, and others of my subjects, detained by the ruler of that country in an unjust captivity. I feel sure that you will share in my satisfaction at the complete success which has attended that expedition. After a march of 400 miles, through a difficult and unexplored country, my troops took the strong place of Magdala, freed the captives, and vindicated the honour of my crown; and by their immediate return, without one act of oppression or needless violence, proved that the expedition had been undertaken only in obedience to the claims of humanity, and in fulfilment of the highest duties of my sovereignty. The cessation of the long-continued efforts to promote rebellion in Ireland has for some time rendered unnecessary the exercise by the executive of exceptional powers. I rejoice to learn that no person is now detained under the provisions of the Act for the suspension of the *habeas corpus*, and that no prisoner awaits trial in Ireland for an offence connected with the Fenian conspiracy.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons: I have to thank you for the liberal supplies which you have voted for the public service.

My Lords and Gentlemen: I have had much satisfaction in giving my assent to a series of measures completing the great work of the amendment of the representation of the people in Parliament, which has engaged your attention for two sessions. I have seen with satisfaction that the time necessarily occupied by this comprehensive subject has not prevented you dealing with other questions of great public interest, and I have gladly given my sanction to bills for the better government of public schools, the regulation of railways, the amendment of the law relating to British sea fisheries, and for the acquisition and maintenance of electric telegraphs by the Postmaster-General, and to several important measures having for their object the improvement of the law, and of the civil and criminal procedures in Scotland. By the appointment of a comptroller-in-chief in the War Office a considerable reform in army administration has been commenced, which, by combining at home and abroad the various departments of military supply under one authority, will conduce to greater economy and efficiency both in peace and war. It is my intention to dissolve the present parliament at the earliest day that will enable my people to reap the benefit of the extended system of representation which the wisdom of parliament has provided for them. I look with entire confidence to their proving themselves worthy of the high privilege with which they have thus been invested: and I trust that, under the blessing of Divine Providence, the expression of their opinion on those great questions of public policy which have occupied the attention of parliament and remain undecided, may tend to maintain unimpaired that civil and religious freedom which has been secured to all my subjects by the institutions and settlement of my realm."

The House of Commons met at half-past one.—Mr. Otway asked the Secretary for Foreign Affairs, whether he had received any information as to a projected offensive and defensive alliance between France, Belgium, and Holland, or of any combination of those powers for purposes hostile to Prussia and Germany.—Lord Stanley said he had received communications from the Belgian minister and from the Hague, and believed there was no foundation for the report.—The Speaker announced that he had received a letter from the representative of the American government, accompanied by a volume entitled "Tribute of Nations to the Memory of Abraham Lincoln," and a resolution passed by the Congress of the United States to the effect that a copy of the work would be transmitted to the parliament of Great Britain.—Lord Stanley: I beg to move a resolution in the following terms:—Resolved that this House has the greatest satisfaction in accepting the volume transmitted to it, with the resolution of the Congress of the United States, and desire to state that the said volume shall be placed in its library, and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Mr. Secretary Seward, with a request that he will communicate it to Congress. Agreed to unanimously.—Mr. Reardon moved for leave to bring in a bill to repeal the Act of Union and to establish a federal and independent legislature in Ireland, with a separation of the national debts and revenue of Great Britain and Ireland.—No one rose to second the motion, and shortly afterwards the Usher of the Black Rod appeared at the bar and summoned the House to attend at the House of Lords.—On the return of the House the Speaker read the Queen's speech from the table, and parliament was then formally prorogued until Thursday, the 8th of October.

**WILLS AND BEQUESTS.**—James Brooke, K.C.B., Rajah of Sarawak, by his will, dated April 15, 1867, devised his sovereignty of Sarawak to his nephew, Charles Johnson Brooke, and the heirs male of his body; and, in default of issue, the Rajah devised his said sovereignty unto Her Majesty the Queen of England, her heirs and assigns for ever; and the Rajah appointed Miss Angela Georgina Burdett Coutts, Thomas Fairbairn, Esq., and John Abel Smith, Esq., M.P., trustees of his will to see the purposes aforesaid carried into effect. The Rajah bequeathed to his nephew, Charles Johnson Brooke, all his real and personal estate in Borneo and England, and constituted him his residuary legatee; and the Rajah directed his nephew, Charles Johnson Brooke, to furnish to his executors from his property in England, and out of the debt which was due to him from the State of Sarawak, sufficient funds to raise legacies to Arthur Crookshank, Esq., and Mr. George Brooke, and liberal annuities in favour of his servants; and the Rajah appointed as his executors Spencer St. John, Esq., Her Britannic Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Hayti; Alexander Knox, Esq., of 91, Victoria-street, Westminster; and John Gillam Booty and Richard Butt, of Gray's-inn, solicitors.—The will of Major-General H. Coningham, H.M.I.A., was proved under £25,000.—The will of Thomas Fletcher, Esq., was proved under \$120,000 personality.—The will of Francis Charles Jodrell, Esq., formerly of Yeardeley, Chester, but late of Hyères, France, was proved in the London Court of Probate, on the 14th inst., under £60,000.—*Illustrated London News.*

The electioneering campaign has opened in Lancashire and Yorkshire with great vigour.

## COURT AND SOCIETY.

DURING the erection of additional buildings to Sandringham House, it was found that the walls of the old house were subject to dry rot, and they have had to come down, so that the place will be altogether new.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh will start in October next on a cruise in H.M.S. *Galatea*, round the world. The following is the route decided upon. Starting from Plymouth the duke will proceed to Madeira, Fayal, Ascension, Cape of Good Hope, Mauritius, Bombay, Trincomalee (Ceylon), Madras, Calcutta, Penang, Singapore, Hong Kong, Manila, Yokohama (Japan), down to Sydney and New Zealand, then to Honolulu, and the beautiful South Sea Islands, Valparaiso, Lima, St. Blas, Magalhães, San Francisco, and Vancouver's Island and, so returning home. This trip is expected to last one year and ten months.

**LORD NAPIER OF MAGDALA.**—Lord Napier is about to visit Wales. The date is finally fixed for to-day and great preparations are going on in Welshpool and its locality. At a town meeting at Welshpool the mayor announced that he had that day received a communication from Lord Napier, through General Scott, accepting the invitation to a public dinner, and naming Saturday, the 8th, and Monday, the 10th instant, as the most convenient days. After discussion, it was unanimously decided that the reception and demonstrations should take place on the first-named day, and a committee, with the mayor as chairman, was appointed to carry out the details. The distinguished guest is expected to arrive via Birmingham and Shrewsbury on Friday afternoon, and will be received at Welshpool Railway station by the mayor and members of the corporation, and a congratulatory address will be presented to Lord and Lady Napier. A cortege will be formed to escort the party to Trelydan Hall, the residence of General Scott, Lady Napier's father, where a party of guests have been invited for the week. A public dinner will be held in the town-hall in the evening, at which Earl Powis is expected to preside.

**THE WESLEYAN CONFERENCE.**—The Conference at Liverpool was resumed on Saturday, the President in the chair. After singing and prayer the daily record was read and the business proceeded with. The Rev. J. Hargreaves, chairman of the Liverpool district, stated that no one chapel in the town could accommodate the numbers anxious to be present at the ordination services, and who had in fact received tickets of admission. Several of the principal ministers were strongly opposed to a division of the services, chiefly because it was very desirable that all should hear the chairman and ex-president. After a prolonged conversation it was agreed that usage should yield to utility, though at great personal sacrifice, if not risk, and the services should take place in two chapels. The Rev. W. Arthur submitted to the earnest solicitations of the conference and promised to deliver an address to the newly appointed ministers in the second chapel appointed for the ordination services. The Grove-street and Pitt-street chapels were fixed upon for these services. The question respecting the candidates for the ministry was then considered.

**THE IRISH CHURCH AND ENGLISH CONGREGATIONS.**—A gentleman writes to the *Daily News*:—"I attended Divine Service in my parish church. Towards the close of the sermon, and just as I was fancying that it was more instructive than usual, I was astonished by the abrupt introduction of the topic of the Irish Church, with which neither the text nor the argument had anything to do, and still more so to hear the congregation invited to step into the vestry to sign two petitions to the Queen. This happened in the middle of the communion office, to the close of which I generally remain. However, on this occasion, I must confess the sudden and unlooked-for introduction of politics so discomposed my thoughts, that I thought it best to take the shortest way home. How the business of signing was managed so as not to delay the communion, I cannot report, but I have good reason to know that the introduction of party politics into the pulpit is much disliked by the parishioners, and may easily be carried too far for the interests of the Church of England."

**PRESIDENT JOHNSON.**—The five additional articles of impeachment brought forward in the House of Representatives at Washington by Mr. Thaddeus Stevens charge President Johnson with abuse of the patronage of his office, establishing State governments in conquered territories, restoring forfeited property, &c. In the article containing the last-named charge Mr. Johnson is accused of taking from the Treasury of the United States "large tracts of land and large amounts of money—sufficient, it is believed, to pay off the national debt"—which had been transferred to the United States as enemies' property, to be applied to the expenses of the war and the debts of the United States. These additional articles created, it is stated, not the slightest excitement in the House, although Mr. Stevens made a long speech in support of them. At his own suggestion, further consideration of them was postponed for a fortnight.

**THE UNFORTUNATE REVIEW AT WINDSOR.**—A severe official reprimand has been administered to those volunteers who broke their ranks at the Windsor Review, on the 20th of June. A circular has been issued from the War-office, signed by the Earl of Longford, expressing the regret of the Secretary of State that he has received an unfavourable report of the discipline of a portion of the force. It is stated that unsteadiness and irregularity prevailed in some corps while on the ground, but after the review was over the crowd at Datchet-bridge became unmanageable. They are described as "a mob of disorderly men," who "forced their way in a tumultuous manner across the bridge." They were "out of all control, disobedient, and insubordinate," but it was impossible to identify them. The volunteers are reminded that though it is optional with them whether they join the force or not, yet when they are under arms they must no longer act independently, but attend to the usage of the military service.

**PATENT BREAD COMPANY.**—A rather curious case came before the magistrate at Bow-street on Saturday. It was a summons against the Patent Bread Machinery Company (Limited) for infringement of the "Companies' Acts." From the statement of Mr. Montagu Williams, who appeared for the prosecution, it seems that the real complainant is a Mr. Stevens, the proprietor of a patent for bread machinery, which he had sold to the company, receiving payment partly in shares. He complained that he had suffered ruinous loss by the manner in which the business was conducted. He charged the directors with having neglected to fix the name of the company outside their offices in the Strand, with omitting to forward a list of the shareholders to the Registrar of Joint-stock Companies, and with not having registered an office to which communications could be addressed. The case involves some rather important questions, which, however, were not entered into, as the summons was adjourned owing to the non-appearance of the defendants.

**ART AT BIRMINGHAM.**—Birmingham, the Metropolis of the Black country, the centre of a thousand industrial occupations, is also not without reputation in the domain of art. There David Cox, a true poet artist, was born, and there, before he died, in 1859, he founded a school of artists, some of whom have attained a more than local celebrity. The painter is in large measure dependent on the skill of the engraver, and the art of engraving has been cultivated with singular success at Birmingham. We note, therefore with interest, that one of the oldest art societies in the provinces has just had an honourable title conferred upon it by her Majesty, and will be known henceforth as the Royal Birmingham Society of artists.—*Express.*

## HOME AND DOMESTIC.

THE harvest men in Surrey have during the past few days been stung by insects which are said to be mosquitoes.

ON Sunday, when the fourth monthly excursion of the National Sunday League took place, about 1,500 persons went to Dover. In the evening addresses were delivered in the market-place on the part of the League, and a vote of thanks to the council was carried.

A FIRE took place on Monday afternoon at Messrs. Boote's, earthenware manufacturers, Burslem, Staffordshire. An immense quantity of finished ware was destroyed, and damage to the extent of two or three thousand pounds was done. A spark from an adjacent shop was the supposed origin.

THE footway of the Thames Embankment between Westminster-bridge and the Temple is now open to the public. There was an absence of all ceremony, and the opening of this important work was accomplished simply by a few noblemen and gentlemen walking over it.

THE announcement that the Atlantic cable of 1866 has failed will be received with general regret. The fact was notified to the Secretary of the Stock Exchange by Sir R. Glass, chairman of the Anglo-American Telegraph Company. The second cable still maintains the communication between the American continent and Europe.

THE annual meeting of the National Artillery Association opened at Shoeburyness on Monday. There is a large and a valuable prize list, and the entries of volunteers from all parts of the country show an increase over those of last year. The chief event of the meeting is the competition for the prizes offered by her Majesty. The camp will be broken up this day.

MR. REDGRAVE, the Government Commissioner, having had his attention directed to the existence of the Child-labour Market in Bethnal-green, has formally instructed the chairman of the Bethnal-green vestry, the Rev. Septimus Hansard, to lay the matter before the vestry. This having been done, it is probable that measures will speedily be taken to suppress this serious and long-standing nuisance.

THE next of the conferences promoted by the Working Men's Club and Institute Union, on social questions, took place on Thursday evening. The subject for discussion was, "Partnerships of Industry: Is there evidence that a system of division of profits, between masters and workmen, in a trading concern, may be maintained so as to conduce to the welfare alike of workmen and capitalists?"

By the District Church Titles Amendment Act, which received the Royal assent on the 31st ult., every beneficed clergyman not a rector obtains the style and designation of vicar. The anomalous title of perpetual curate, which has attached to the incumbencies of district churches and of the greater part of the appropriate and impropriate rectories has ceased to exist, and the nominal inferiority implied by its use has been removed. All beneficed clergy of the Church of England are now either rectors or vicars.

THE usual indications of London being "out of town" are following each other in quick succession. On Friday the prorogation of Parliament took place, and on the same day the Lord Chancellor wished the equity bar a pleasant vacation. On Saturday the Opera season and the summer musical season at the Crystal Palace were brought to a close, the former with the benefit of Mdlle. Titiens, and the latter with a supplemental concert for the benefit of Mr. Manns, the conductor of the orchestra.

ON Sunday night a serious accident occurred to a pleasure van on the Clapham-road, between Stockwell and the Rise. It appears that a number of persons in the employment of Mr. Kimmel, the perfumer, had engaged a van to go to Walton Heath. The van, in returning had reached the Clapham-road, when one of the wheels suddenly gave way, and the immense vehicle turned over with a great crash. Nine persons, the majority of whom were on the outside of the van, were seriously injured, and were conveyed in cabs to St. Thomas's Hospital.

FATAL accidents at rifle ranges are unhappily becoming more common. A week or two ago the accidental discharge of a rifle at the Devonport range resulted in the death of two volunteers, and on Monday at Wormwood Scrubs a lad was shot dead through a similar cause. Two youths had been entrusted with the care of a loaded rifle for a short time, when, as a matter of course, they began to play pranks with it, and an unfortunate boy who was standing by was killed instantaneously, his head being blown nearly off. Both the careless delinquents were taken into custody, and having been brought up at the Hammersmith Police-court, were remanded.

THE commencement of the recess brings a number of rumours of ministerial and judicial changes. Lord Mayo, it is said, is to be Governor-General of India, although Sir John Lawrence's five years of office do not expire until November next. It is further stated that Lord Derby's second son, the Hon. F. A. Stanley, is to be the Civil Lord of the Admiralty, in succession to Mr. Du Cane. Chief Baron Kelly and Lord Justice Page Wood are spoken of as the new law lords. Lastly, it is stated that the Solicitor-General is to have one of the judgeships to be created under the provisions of the new Bribery Prevention Act. It is not usual for the second law officer of the crown to accept a puisne judgeship. Sir Henry Keating did so when he was Solicitor-General, but a refusal is the rule.

ON Sunday night, about six o'clock, a fire broke out in the goods depot of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company, at Huddersfield station. The fire made extremely rapid progress, and in about half an hour the roof of the warehouse fell in, and the merchandise in its interior was completely destroyed, in spite of the efforts the town firemen, the London and Liverpool and Globe Brigades, and other engines which came to the place. The front wall of the warehouse fell outward after the roof had gone, and the air had free access to the burning material, which blazed furiously. The damage done must amount to some thousands of pounds. This is the second time the warehouse has been destroyed, the former time being about April, 1867. The cause of the fire is unknown.

THE Hampshire Advertiser states that the parliamentary lists of borough voters are now placed on the church and chapel doors at Southampton. The list of the large parish of St. Mary's contains only 24 additional names. The list includes the names of 50 Customs and Post-office officials. In aristocratic All Saints the increase is very slight. In Portswood there is an increase of about 100 names, the borough constituency is therefore not affected by the new Reform Act, but of the 5,000 electors on the new list only 3,000 took part in the last election. In the county of Hants the extension is very large, as in Millbrook and Eling alone there will be an addition of 1,000 names, and in Woolston and other parts of St. Mary Extra, where building operations have been extensively carried on, the increase will be large.

THE annual contest for Doggett's coat and badge took place on Saturday from the Swan at London-bridge to the Swan at Chelsea—a course of very nearly five miles. The following were the competitors:—Thomas Day, Wapping; Charles B. Messenger, Rotherhithe; Henry Hero Stringer, Rotherhithe; Thos. W. Hawkins, jun., Limehouse; Alfred Eglington, Blackwall; and George Block, Hornseydown. There were various other prizes besides the bequest of Mr. Thomas Doggett, amounting to £4 17s. 9d. for the second youth, £2 18s. 9d. for the third, a guinea and a half for the fourth, and a guinea each for the other two, provided they rowed the entire course. Eglington came away immediately after the start, was clear in 100 yards, and won with great ease. Messenger was second, Hawkins third, and Day fourth.



## FOREIGN AND GENERAL.

VICTOR EMANUEL has received a curious present, the heart of a Venetian patriot who died fighting for his country. It is dried, and bears the inscription: "Sire, this heart, too, desired you for its king."

The journals in the South of France report a succession of terrific thunder storms and rainfalls in that part of the country. The hail stones in some places were as large as pigeon's eggs. Much damage was done.

The *Italia* of Naples says:—M. Angelone, receiver of taxes at San Pio, in the commune of Pontecchia, was recently captured by five brigands at a short distance from his residence, and only released on his family paying a sum of 8,000.

A PARTY of men called crimps recently boarded some outward bound vessels near Montreal, for the purpose of decoying away their crews. Several sailors were stolen by them. The mate of one vessel shot dead a sailor who was in the act of deserting.

The Marquis and the Marquise de Caux have left Paris for Switzerland. The *Pigaro* says the Emperor has written to the Marquis that he cannot bear the title of imperial chamberlain so long as his wife remains upon the stage, but that his salary will be continued.

The *Escaut* mentions a terrible accident which took place at the village of Sainte-Anne (Tête-de-Flandre), in Belgium, a few days ago. A number of persons were assembled in an enclosure in which sparrow shooting was going on, when a barrel of gunpowder exploded and more or less seriously injured about thirty persons.

It is announced that the Emperor of the French "as a mark of his high personal esteem and admiration of the character and public principles of the late Mr. Cobden," has sent a subscription of £40 to the committee who have erected the memorial at Camden-town to that illustrious statesman.

A TELEGRAM from Vienna states that Cardinal Antonelli's reply to the despatch of Herr von Beust respecting the attitude taken up by the Pope with regard to the new Austrian laws consists of a simple acknowledgment of the receipt of that despatch. Another telegram states however that no reply at all has yet been received.

A LETTER from Ems relates that the King of Prussia, while walking under the colonnade at that town a few days back, with his aides-de-camp, Count de Lehndorff and Count de Hymmen, perceived in a shop a marble bust of himself, crowned with a wreath of laurel. Going in, he said to the dealer:—"Take off the poor man's head-dress; he does not like to see himself made such a show."

The state of Spain continues very unsettled. There are constant rumours of conspiracies against the Government. The Governor of Cadiz has telegraphed to Madrid that he fears an insurrectionary outbreak in different parts of that province. A rumour has been spread that the Carlist General Cabrera will shortly issue a manifesto proposing to place the eldest son of Don Juan on the Spanish throne.

The statue of the late King Leopold of Belgium was uncovered on Sunday at Antwerp, in the midst of great rejoicings and a vast crowd. A speech was delivered by Baron Nothbohm. A cantata expressly composed for the occasion by M. Alphonse Lemaire was sung. The filing past of the Civic Guards occupied an hour and a half. The statue, which is the work of Geefs, was covered with flowers, and was exposed to public view amidst loud cries of "Vive le Roi!"

A SPECIAL correspondent in Vienna says that the great rifle contest there is being vigorously carried on by competitors from every part of Germany. Shooting tickets to the number of 13,000 have been issued; but there is a much larger gathering of "shooting men" in the city, and it is anticipated that the number of competitors will ultimately amount to 30,000. The Emperor visited the ground on Thursday week, and fired three shots at the butts.

The *Independence Belge* says that, in anticipation of the political manifestations to which the rifle meeting at Vienna might give rise, Herr von Beust deemed it necessary to decline beforehand all responsibility with regard to them. In a despatch addressed to the Austrian legation in Berlin, Herr von Beust is said to have declared that the Imperial Government had nothing to do with the meeting, had no control over it, and that it would be unfair, therefore, to render it responsible for any individual manifestations which might occur.

THERE has been a duel between the famous M. Jecker and a Paris journalist, M. Odysse Barot. Annoyed at some remarks from the pen of the latter which appeared a few days since in the *Liberte*, M. Jecker resorted to the pistol for satisfaction in the usual continental fashion. The combatants met on Saturday evening last in the forest of Soigne, Belgium, and duly exchanged shots. M. Barot was hit, but the ball fortunately glanced off upon a button and entered his waistcoat pocket. Though somewhat suffering he was soon able to return to Paris.

The High Court of Appeal at Paris has given judgment in the case of the Credit Mobilier. The Court, while admitting that the meetings of the shareholders, held on January 1st and March 12th, were in conformity with the laws of the company, declared nevertheless that the directors, Messrs. Emile and Isaac Pereire, M. Salvador, the Duke de Galliera, and M. Blesis, were responsible for their acts, but not for the whole amount of the share capital for which the action was brought. The Court decided that damages should be given in favour of the shareholders, but the amount is to be fixed later on. MM. Michel Chevalier, Bussieres, Selliere, and Grieninger are declared not responsible.

The *Paris Temps* in an article upon the new Atlantic cable, which is to unite France to America, says that the line will have the advantage of being divided into only two sections, while the English line is split up into seven between Holyhead and New York, and into eleven when used from Paris. "It will be seen, therefore," adds the *Temps*, "that the French cable will become the most rapid and at the same time the most economical for communications between the greater part of the European States and America. Perhaps even the English will avail themselves of it more than once." The French cable is to go direct from Brest to the Island of St. Pierre, and thence to New York.

The *Independence Belge* says that the various statements which have appeared respecting the condition of the Empress Charlotte, are entitled to no sort of consideration. It thinks her misfortune so great, and the sorrow of her family so profound, that they ought to obtain the respect which is manifested by silence, and that the tender solicitude which surrounds her should not be disturbed by revelations which are obtrusive and fictitious. The *Independence* then states that the condition of the Princess has varied but little since she returned to Belgium. Her physical strength is completely restored, and her intellect is generally lucid; but at times there come caprices and inexplicable oddities, which show that her mental condition is not yet entirely satisfactory.

In the village of Courpignac Charente-Inferieure, France, the electric fluid fell three days back on the house of a cattle dealer named Chaumet, and injured six persons. The daughter of the proprietor had her clothes burnt, and received such a shock as to cause grave anxiety. The lightning caused a double-barrelled gun to explode, broke the glass of the clock, and melted the pendulum weight. Another case of the effect of lightning has taken place at Pont Saint Martin, Loire-Inferieure. A young man and woman on the point of marriage, the former 22 years of age and the latter 18, were struck dead by the electric fluid, and found leaning against a tree under which they had taken shelter from a storm.

## SPORTS AND PASTIMES.

THE CANTERBURY WEEK.—The "cricket week" in Canterbury, and indeed throughout the eastern division of the county, is regarded as a great "institution," and its annual recurrence in the first week in August is looked forward to by all grades of society with pleasurable anticipations. The nobility and gentry of the county make it an occasion of assembling, probably for the first time, after the break-up of the London season. The members of the Marylebone and I Zingari clubs, and all whose business or pleasure, as the case may be, have demanded their attendance at Lord's or elsewhere during the late active cricket campaign, hail the reunion here with the most lively satisfaction. As to the trade of Canterbury, it of course receives a great impetus from this meeting, all the hotels and lodging-houses being full to repletion. The whole week is one continuous round of amusement; and apart from the attractions of the cricket field, Canterbury itself is so richly stored with objects of interest and pleasurable research, added to the proverbial beauty of the surrounding neighbourhood, that he must be a dullard indeed who fails to appreciate them. The weather, it is almost superfluous to add, has been bright and beautiful, though fleecy clouds at times were driven by a pleasant breeze from an easterly direction. The St. Lawrence Ground, whereon the matches are played, is about a mile from the City on the Dover-road, and the area, which is about ten acres in extent, presents a dead level. The ground is under the tutelage of Fuller Pilch, the celebrated Kent veteran, who bestows great pains on its "condition," both in and out of season. Surrounding the grounds are some noble aspen and sycamore trees, affording a delicious shade, and it is beneath the former and upon the slopes adjacent that the beauty and fashion of the county assemble on these occasions.

THAMES NATIONAL REGATTA.—This revived regatta took place on Monday. There were not many entries, and the attendance of spectators was extremely limited. The preliminary heats of the Scullers' Prize (£90), termed the Championship of the Thames, from Putney to Mortlake, were rowed, as also the preliminaries of the Pair-oared Prize (£40). The racing commenced at half-past one with the Championship of the Thames. A scullers' race for £100 took place in the afternoon between Benjamin Edwards, a waterman of the Tower, and George Sheppard, a waterman of Chelsea. Both are noted scullers, Edwards having won the Tower boat and defeated many good above and below-bridge men, and Sheppard has displayed good rowing qualities, when he raced Caffin from Putney to Mortlake two years ago. The men had been in active preparation for the event—Edward at Mr. Wilcox's, White Hart, Barnes, and Sheppard at Tom Hoare's, the King's Arms, Hammer-smith, and were in good condition. Two steamers accompanied, and Mr. C. Bush was referee. Edwards won the toss, and took the inside station; they got away level, and shortly afterwards Edwards drew out with the lead, clearing his man in a quarter of a mile; then Sheppard drew up slightly, but fell away again to the Soap Works, where he was again on even terms with his opponent, with whom he rowed 50 yards, and then quitting him, won with ease, Edwards coming up towards the finish.

A FISHING MATCH.—The *Nottingham Express* gives an account of what is described as an "All England Fishing Match." There were 75 competitors, and the spot selected to fish in was the Navigation Dyke, which forms a portion of the river Trent, and is situated about one mile and a half from Newark. The first prize was £3, the second £2, and the third £1, besides which 48 minor prizes were given, consisting of fishing-rods, &c. The names of the winners and weights caught were:—1st prize, Stubbs, Nottingham, 10lb. 6oz.; 2nd, Whelshouse, Nottingham, 7lb. 8oz.; 3rd, Belshaw, Nottingham, 7lb. 8oz. As the two latter caught the same weight they divided. Fifty-three others "weighed in," and to 48 of them prizes were awarded.

ANOTHER TURF DISPUTE.—A curious trial (says "Argus" in his sporting notes) is taking place at Guildford before Mr. Justice Willes, and which excites much interest in racing circles, as it contests the right of betting men to post a man who owes them a few sovereigns as a common defaulter on the grand stand at Epsom. It seems that the plaintiff, who had a running account with the defendants, had taken four "ponies" about Lady Elizabeth, and 5 to 2 to a small amount relative to Speculum for a place. Now, other engagements prevented him being at Epsom on the Derby Day, and the defendants, not having faith in their customer, declared the bets off on the ground of his being in default, whereupon he brings his suit.

A RAILWAY BRIDGE ON FIRE.—On Friday afternoon a wooden pile bridge near Settle, on the main line of the Chester and Shrewsbury (Great Western) Railway, was discovered to be on fire. The discovery was made by Superintendent Brooker, of the company's service, who was travelling in the down train from London, and who, happening to look out as the train neared the bridge, perceived the flames rising over the up side. By the prompt action of Mr. Brooker, a goods train, which was waiting at Settle junction to cross the bridge, was stopped in time, and the superintendent, taking an engine and getting together a gang of men, went down to the scene of the fire. The flames were by this time a yard high, and covered a large area of the bridge; but, notwithstanding the scarcity of water, the men, by heaping ballast upon the burning wood, succeeded in subduing and finally extinguishing the flames. After ascertaining that the bridge was safe, a passenger train, which was just due, and the luggage train, were permitted to cross, and steps were immediately taken permanently to repair the bridge. It is supposed that the fire originated in the ignition of the hedge which runs beside the bridge and adjoins the piles upon which it is built.

THE WESLEYAN CONFERENCE AT LIVERPOOL.—The business of the conference was resumed on Monday morning. A deep gloom was cast over the conference by the announcement that the Rev. Alexander T. James, who had left Liverpool on Saturday for Huddersfield, for the purpose of preaching Sunday-school sermons, had been found dead in bed on Sunday morning. The designations of the conference of last year were read and confirmed as follows:—"That the Rev. W. Arthur, M.A., be appointed Principal of the Wesleyan College at Belfast for three years, but that his name be retained as honorary secretary in connection with the Mission-house." It was also resolved that Dr. Osborn be appointed theological tutor, Rev. W. F. Moulton classical tutor, and Daniel Sanderson governor of the college at Richmond, and that the Rev. John Lomas be appointed theological and the Rev. Benjamin classical tutors to the new college at Headingley. It was also resolved that a committee be appointed to meet all cases not included in the nominations made last conference. It was unanimously resolved that the Rev. G. T. Perks fill up the vacancy left at the Mission-house by Dr. Osborn's appointment to Richmond College. Questions of a ministerial character were then proceeded with.

THE LATE QUEEN OF MADAGASCAR.—"A very strange account has reached us from Madagascar (says the *Calcutta Englishman*) of the burial of the late Queen. The body was swathed in nearly 500 silk lambas, in the folds of which 20 gold watches, 100 gold chains, rings, brooches, bracelets, and other jewellery, together with 500 gold coins, were rolled. All the presents she had received from the Queen and the Emperor of the French were buried with her, and all her furniture and personal effects."

A MONSTER COCONERY.—In Nevada a Mr. Hoag has a coconery 50 feet square and 18 feet high. His nursery and hatching room, containing 1,000 feet of shelves, are sufficient for making 2,000,000 cocoons. His nursery is heated artificially. He is now feeding nearly 1,000,000 silkworms, and he hopes soon to feed 3,000,000.

## MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

OPERAS.—The Operas are now both closed. Mr. Mapleson has had quite a brilliant season, and a very paying time of it. On the last night but one Mdle. Christine Nilsson gave London quite a benefit—an act of the Traviata, one of Faust, and the last of Lucia. In all she betrayed the highest talent. We are bound to admit, however, we cannot find the least scintilla of genius in her acting. On Saturday The Titiens took her benefit, playing in Don Giovanni, which does not suit her, and in the Medea, which does suit her. Titiens is great as the virago. By the way, Nilsson did not sing at Titiens's benefit, nor the latter at that of the former. Now they say that Mdle. Nilsson is the most charming of ladies. And so Adelina Patti is married. However, we must confess to a sense of the commercial running through the wedding. The marchioness is to remain on the stage for two years, she is to be received at the French court at the end of the two years, the marquis is to receive his salary as palace chamberlain, but is not to serve while his wife is on the stage. Here there seems a strange jumble of ledgers, liberality, etiquette, and kind-heartedness. However, all we have to be satisfied with is that the leading prima donna of the world remains two years longer upon the stage.

ASTLEY'S.—The dramatic event of the week has been the superb production of "Alarcos" at Astley's. If splendour of appointments, good scenery, good music, good singing, and the prestige of a prime minister as the author of a piece should bring success, then "Alarcos" on last Saturday promised to produce a dramatic fortune. Unhappily the acting was not equal to the play, in which some extraordinarily fine lines may be found, while the leading lady, Miss Cameron, from Nova Scotia, was wanting in much that attracts. This lady may be right in her dramatic theories. The public, it would appear, differ from the lady's views.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—The summer musical season at this establishment was appropriately closed on Saturday by a supplemental concert devoted to the benefit of Mr. Manns, the conductor of the Crystal Palace orchestra, which has risen to such high efficiency and renown during the several years that it has been under his guidance and training. The programme of Saturday was similar to those of the recent series of opera concerts, the termination of which we recorded last week; consisting chiefly of favourite extracts from well-known operas. There was one specialty, however, peculiar to the occasion, in the shape of a short cantata (or "Ballade," so named), the composition of Max Bruch, the composer of the violin concerto which was recently noticed by us on its first performance at the eighth Philharmonic concert. The cantata produced at the Crystal Palace on Saturday, also for the first time, is entitled "Fair Ellen" (Schön Ellen), and is founded on the well-known incident at the siege of Lucknow, of the Highland girl foretelling the approaching relief. The original German text is by E. Geibel, and the piece consists of some solos for a baritone and a soprano, linked together with short choral narrations. The work is brief in duration and slight in texture, consisting of a series of desultory declamatory passages, and presenting but little of the aspect of a regular and studied composition. The introduction of fragmentary passages of the national air "The Campbells are Coming" in the orchestral accompaniments, and the closing solo and choral phrases in the same rhythm, but prolonged tempo, are admirable.

MDLE. ADELINA PATTI was married on Wednesday to the Marquis de Caux, at the Roman Catholic Chapel, Clapham-park-road. Mr. Costa and the Duke of Manchester signed the contract as witnesses on behalf of the bride. The witnesses on behalf of the bridegroom were the Prince de la Tour d'Auvergne, ambassador of France, and M. Mure, secretary at the French embassy. The bridesmaids were Mdle. Rita, daughter of Signor Mario; Miss Harris, daughter of Mr. Augustus Harris, of the Royal Italian Opera; and Mdle. Zanzi. The chapel was crowded by a distinguished assembly, amongst whom were a large number of musical celebrities; M. Costa, Signor Mario, Madame Grisi, Mr. Gye, &c. Amongst the many ornaments which were presented to Mdle. Patti was a very beautifully-executed Arabesque pendant, composed of pearls, diamonds, and large turquoise with enamel scrolls suspended from a large gold chain, and was the gift of Signor Mario; also a pair of very large and handsome gold and coral pendant earrings, the pendants being formed of coral about two inches in length, carved in the shape of Etruscan vases, with festoons, the top being formed of gold with a solid carved coral bull's head, and were formerly in the possession of the Queen of Naples; these were the gift of Madame Grisi. The above ornaments were each fitted in a very pretty velvet case, with the coronet and initials marked on the outside, and were supplied by Mr. Streeter, of 37, Conduit-street, Bond-street.

MDME. TUSSAUD'S EXHIBITION.—The admirable collection of les hommes celebres in Baker-street continues to sustain its well-deserved popularity. There have lately been many additions. The most recent are portrait-models of the Duke of Edinburgh, Lord Napier of Magdala, King Theodore of Abyssinia, in original dress presented by Mrs. Stern, wife of the captive missionary of that name.

We see it stated in some of the newspapers that Miss Charlotte Cushman "has been solicited to condescend to act" during her stay in this country! What abject folly this is, and what a pitiable spectacle is presented for Europeans to wonder at; nay more, to sneer and laugh at, and the cringing character of the language used deserves nothing less at the hands of all sensible people. Who are the brainless snobs who have made this degrading request? Let us have their names and show them up, so that the consequences of the assinine stupidity of which they have been guilty may be visited on their own heads, and the people at large be held guiltless.—*New York Herald*.

VERY NEW DRAMATIC NEWS FROM AMERICA.—It is said that Mr. Pike is negotiating with Mdle. Schneider with a view to her appearance at his opera house in the autumn. This may be so; but the net that will catch her must be a golden one, bobs, sinkers, leach and all. She is now surprising the Cockneys, and on her first appearance in London, the Queen, the Princess and Prince of Wales, and a very large number of the higher class of English and Irish aristocracy were present. Of course she sang Offenbach's music and the whole thing, *double entendres* and all, was gulped down, to the infinite delight of the moral people of the "tight little island." We suppose that the word "tight" is applied to that spot for the reason that the statistics of drunkenness are greater there than in any other place on the globe. On the advent of Mdle. Schneider the prices for seats at the theatre were raised to a guinea each, a pretty good leap from six shillings sterling, and the auditorium has been filled on every night since. Whoever gets her on this side of the water will be sure to fill his house, though her terms may empty his pockets. Those of Mr. Pike's, however, are very deep.—*New York Mercury*.

THE CASE OF MADAME RACHEL.—No further notice has been given of bail for Madame Rachel. Two days' notice must be given of the next application. The defendant is still an inmate of Newgate. The session of the Central Criminal Court will commence on the 17th inst., and it is doubtful whether another application will be made.

FATAL ACCIDENT TO A MILL OWNER.—We are sorry to announce the death of Mr. Joseph Horn, of Fleet Mills, Oulton, near Leeds, formerly of Castleford. It appears that immediately after dinner on Monday the deceased gentleman was in an upper story of the mill, when either by accident or by a fit he fell from a landing stage and alighted upon his forehead; he was taken up insensible and remained in that state until his death, which took place on Wednesday morning last.—*Yorkshire Press*.





MISS LYDIA THOMPSON.

## LORD NAPIER AND THE THIRD CITY OF LONDON VOLUNTEERS.

On Saturday evening the 3rd City of London Rifle Volunteers, of which Lord Napier of Magdala has accepted the honorary colonelcy, was inspected by the gallant general in the Regent's-park, in the presence of some seven or eight thousand people. There were 448 men on parade, forming eight strong companies; but had the hour fixed for the inspection (the corps being composed chiefly of working men) been an hour later, there is no doubt the muster would have been much stronger. The regiment was formed up in line facing to the south, and awaited the arrival of the general. Shortly before seven o'clock a carriage containing Lady Napier and her father, General Scott, drove into the enclosure and took up a position near the saluting point, followed by one or two other carriages containing friends of her husband and his family. A few minutes after Lord Napier, who was attired in his full-dress uniform of a general, with all his orders, and accompanied by Colonel Dillon, of the Rifle Brigade, who acted as his aide-de-camp, entered the enclosure, and was received by the regiment presenting arms, the band playing "The Conquering Hero," and with a tremendous outburst of cheering from all sides of the vast assembly. At the conclusion of the movements, Lord Napier addressed the corps, and assured them that he was very much gratified to find that the City of London could turn out so admirable a body of working men as he saw before him as volunteers. This was the first time he had had an opportunity of making an inspection of volunteers, and he was proud to be at the head of such a regiment. He knew that a great deal of time and trouble must be sacrificed to perfect themselves in drill as volunteers, even by independent men, but what must be the case with a body of working men who are compelled to toil and labour for their daily bread by their occupations? He was sure that they must have made many sacrifices to become trained in the drill and discipline which had brought the regiment into that most creditable condition to enable them to effect the military movements he had witnessed that evening. The way in which they had gone through their exercises was extremely creditable to Colonel Laurie and to the officers and non-commissioned officers of the regiment, and showed a vast amount of application and attention on the part of the men. He had no doubt they had found that drill and discipline of service to them. They must all have found that the discipline they had learned as volunteers had assisted them in preserving order with regard to their domestic lives, which they did not previously possess, and he had no doubt that they had felt, and did feel, that by becoming members of the volunteer regiment they had rendered themselves both individually and collectively a far more important body in the community than they were before, and he had no hesitation in expressing his belief that they would continue to maintain that important position. He desired to en-

courage them in shooting, and therefore had much pleasure in presenting the regiment with a cup of the value of £20 as a challenge cup.

## MISS LYDIA THOMPSON.

Few actresses have created greater interest at home and on the continent, in a few brief years, than Miss Lydia Thompson, whose portrait we this week give. She was born in London on the 19th of February, 1838, and made her first *debut* on the stage at Her Majesty's Theatre in 1852. This was in a ballet with Madame Guy Stephan. For a few years she left the stage, and then re-appeared at the Haymarket in Mr. Buckstone's first pantomime as Little Silver Hair. From that period up to the present she has been almost continually before the public. She has appeared in all the large continental cities; and more than one duel has been fought on her account. Miss Thompson married the late Mr. Tilbury, who was unfortunately thrown from his horse and killed. She is now performing at the Strand Theatre in the burlesque of "The Field of the Cloth of Gold."

**ALTERATIONS IN STREET NAMES.**—The following alterations have been ordered to be made in the names of public streets by the Metropolitan Board of Works:—St. James-street, Bermondsey, renamed Layard-road; Union-street and Great Union-street, Southwark, renamed Lancaster-street; Wharf-road, Islington, renamed Wharfedale-road; Back-alley and Fishmongers'-alley, Southwark, to be incorporated with St. Margaret's-court; King-street, Battersea, to be incorporated with Bridge-road, West. The subsidiary names of terraces, places, villas, &c., to be abolished in Belsize-road and Boundary-road, St. John's-wood; Victoria-road, Kensington; Blantyre-street, Luna-street, and Seaton-street, Chelsea. The following are the alterations in the names of streets in the parish of Newington—Grosvenor-park North and South, North and South terraces, Park-villas, and South-villas, to be named Grosvenor-park throughout; Park-place and Park-street, renamed Elsted-street; Nelson-place and Sun-street, renamed Orb-street; Thomas-street, Lock's-fields, renamed Dale-street; Thomas-street, New Kent-road, renamed Arch-street; Brunswick-street, and St. George's-road, renamed Falmouth-road; West-street, Lorrimore-terrace, and South-terrace, incorporated and called Penrose-street; George-row, renamed Cottage-row; Grove-street and Thurlow-place, renamed Thurlow-street; Penton-street to be incorporated with Amelia-street; Ann-street incorporated with Aylesbury-street; and Cross-street to be incorporated with Otto-street. A few months ago the Metropolitan Board of Works ordered Lamb's-conduit-place and Guilford-place, Foundling Hospital, to be incorporated with Lamb's-conduit-street, but the Board has rescinded that order, and instead thereof ordered that Lamb's-conduit-place be called Guilford-place.

## EMPLOYERS AND LABOUR.

An important case affecting the relations of trades' unionists with employers of labour was brought before the Court of Chancery. The Springhead Cotton Spinning Company carry on business at Oldham, and they sought for an injunction to restrain the president and secretary of a trades' union association from publishing certain placards in which cotton spinners were requested not to knock at the door of the plaintiffs' manufactory for employment until a dispute between them and their workpeople was terminated. The plaintiffs contended that those placards intimidated many who might be inclined to enter their service, and that the value of their property had been depreciated, their losses being at the rate of £178 a week. The defendants had filed demurrers for want of equity—that is to say, they admitted the facts, but denied that the Court of Chancery had any right to interfere. Vice-Chancellor Malins, however, held that in cases where the rights of property were invaded, the Court interfered to protect them. He was clearly of opinion that in the present instance the Court of Chancery ought to act as the protector of property, and therefore he overruled the demurrers. The general question whether the Court could prevent the unlawful issuing by workmen of placards amounting to intimidation would probably be decided at the hearing of the cause.

**AMERICAN DEMOCRACY.**—The Democratic "platform" is very roughly handled by the New York papers. The *Herald* says the Democrats act as though they had never heard of the great changes caused by the war, but "twaddle on in the same arrogant self-sufficiency and wilful blindness" the nation four years ago absolutely repudiated them for. The *New York Times* says the platform is a mixture "of fact and fustian, of courage and duplicity;" bold to the verge of rashness in regard to finance, equivocal in its allusion to reconstruction, confused in its exposition of fiscal and administrative reforms, and diffuse and turgid in its arrangement of the ruling party. The *Tribune* is of opinion that the platform ostentatiously beats the air. It denounces military rule when the departmental commanders are surrendering their power; it calls for the withdrawal of the freedmen's bureau when Congress is providing for the closing of that bureau; it seems anxious to atone, by the vehemence with which it denounces whatever has passed or is passing away, for its cowardly equivocations and subterfuges with regard to tangible and living issues. The financial views of the Democrats are denounced in even stronger terms.

In consequence of the Reduction in Duty, Horniman's Teas are now supplied by the Agents, Eightpence per lb. cheaper. Every genuine packet is signed "Horniman and Co."—[ADVT.]

GREY or faded hair restored to the original colour by F. E. SIMON'S AMERICAN HAIR RESTORER. Price 3s. Sold by most Chemists and Perfumers.—[ADVT.]



A NIGHT IN A LIFE BOAT.

THE life-boat men were glad, after their night's watch and morning's work, to rest a few hours; but plenty of boatmen remained to watch, ready at any moment to make up a crew. The cold became hour by hour more intense, and the fresh breeze steadily grew into a gale. The sea at high tide broke in flying volumes of spray against the pier, thundered down upon it, and poured over it in foaming cascades into the harbour. As the evening grew on the gale became terrific in force; heavy snow-storms went sweeping by, showers of freezing sleet came rushing along, and the night was dreary and dismal—dark and cold in the extreme. At about half-past ten the storm was in its full fury, and the sea a very howling wilderness of raging waters. At that moment, mid the roar of the wind and sea, the signal guns were heard, and rockets were seen in the direction of the Gull light ship. "The life boat was manned with despatch," would be the short report the coxswain of the boat would afterwards make to the harbour-master. This means that the boatmen, in spite of the piercing cold and terrific gale, rush along the pier, hurrying down the harbour steps and into the boat, to face the dread peril of the wild sea, as readily as schoolboys bound down the school stairs and out on to the common for the joy of a summer holiday. It takes the steamer and life-boat about one hour and a half to urge their way out to the Gull light ship. They speak her about one in the morning, and are told that the men on board saw some time since a large light burning south-east by south, but they lost it about twenty minutes ago. The steamer at once tows

SOME STATISTICS OF DIVORCE.

A CLERICAL publication in a recent number, gives some very curious, and, at the same time, valuable figures concerning the frequency of divorce in the New England States. Unfortunately, the sort of thing is too common throughout the whole country, and we suppose we must accept the tables of the authority in question, at least as a basis on which to form our conclusions relative to the enormous extent of divorce in general, or so far as it is confined to the United States. Vermont is selected as being, by geographical position, the most secluded of the New England States, the least affected by foreign immigration or by the marriages of mixed nationalities, and, probably with New Hampshire, the most tenacious in maintaining the severe morals of the early settlers. Vermont is divided into fourteen counties, and has a population that has varied very little within the past five years; although there has been a remarkable increase in the number of divorces granted there within the above interval—showing for the last year an advance of seventy per cent. There is another point, however, from which the subject must be viewed, which will bring it more home to us. Bearing in mind that these divorces have been increasing as stated, while the population has remained almost stationary, the whole number of libels granted to that year will be found to sum up to the large figure of 598—this, be it borne in mind, to a population of 315,098 persons, or one divorce to every 332 persons. But we must not stop here. We have to deduct fifty per cent. for the children and youth under eighteen—then we have one divorce for every 266 marriageable persons. Now, as if

THE LANDING STAGE AT LIVERPOOL.

THE fine and extensive landing stage shown in our engraving, is perhaps one of the finest in England. It has only been in existence a few years, and is still called the new landing stage. As will be seen it is very commodious, and has four gangways.

SARATOGA SPRINGS.

SARATOGA is the great watering-place, or the Baden-Baden of North America. All the fashion of New York and other places assemble here in the summer months, where every kind of amusement, including gaming, is carried on to an alarming extent. The springs came into repute through the Indians in 1767, and are spread over a tract of twelve miles. Congress Spring was discovered in 1792. It is the most celebrated, and is highly esteemed for its medicinal properties. We give an engraving of the principal promenade.

THE BRONZE COINAGE.

A CURIOUS complaint has been made by some of the most eminent of London firms. There is a glut of the new bronze coinage, which so advantageously superseded the old copper money a few years ago. In businesses where large daily payments are made, the accumulation of this money is causing the greatest inconvenience. As it is not a legal tender except for small payments, it cannot be cleared off in large amounts, or sent into the Bank. Where workmen are engaged in considerable numbers an outlet



THE BOYS' REFUGE, WANDSWORTH.

the boat in the direction, a careful look-out is kept, the snow-storms come down more wildly than ever, the cold is very bitter, the sea running mountains high; still on, and no signs of a light. The crew hold a consultation as to what is best to be done. There appears no possibility of one of the crew of the vessel being still alive clinging to any floating wreckage; still some other vessel may be in danger; they will wait and watch for any light or signal of distress, and not seeing it, at all events remain there until daylight that they may be sure they are not leaving behind them any who may be perishing for want of their aid; and so, while most if not all of you, my readers, were comfortable in your beds (the wakeful ones of you perhaps listening wistfully to the storm, and perhaps having your hearts moved with pity and to prayer for the poor fellows at sea), these brave men—from choice, not for hope of money reward, but for the far dearer hope of saving life—waited on and on by those gloomy Sands a prey to all the fierceness of the gale, the raging seas, and deadly cold. Time after time the mad, rushing waves break over the boat, burying her in clouds of spray and foam, or, coming in heavier volume still, put the men for a moment or two completely under water. The sufferings of the crew become very severe. They encourage each other, and still let the boat lay-to. Willing as every man is to endure to the utmost, they soon feel that it is getting beyond their strength; they are frozen through and through, and rapidly getting numbed and exhausted with the continual wash of heavy seas, and, at last they are compelled to make a signal for the steamer, and are towed back to Ramsgate, arriving between four and five in the morning.—*Macmillan's Magazine.*

MR. GLADSTONE FOR EAST LANCASHIRE.—We have great pleasure in stating that Mr. Gladstone has elected to stand for the South-Eastern Division of Lancashire. He will have as his colleague Mr. Henry R. Grenfell, now M.P. for Stokes. The Tories are certain to strain every nerve to defeat the liberal leader.

is obvious that in every divorce case there must be two persons, it follows, as a mathematical certainty, that one man in every 283 men, and one woman in every 233 women have a strong, it might be said, a vital interest in this matter.

WHAT I SAW IN AMERICA.—The following is a new style of advertisement in the United States:—I saw ladies stick their fingers through gold rings and very nimble at the piano, but could not cook dinner. I saw men in the pulpit who looked very devout and humble, but acted like devils in their own families. I saw men strutting in rich apparel through Broadway, who would starve if their mothers forsook the washtub. I saw people pay hundreds of dollars for poison, in shape of pills, powders, or tonics, and grow weaker daily, when it would not have cost them a cent to try Wolcott's Pain Paint, at 170, Chatham-square, and get relief, or be cured at one application.

HORRIBLE OCCURRENCE.—A young cripple, named Mary Ann Burley, living about four miles from York, in a fit of despondency at the apprehension of her sister on a charge of robbery, threw herself, on Saturday, under the engine of a train which her own brother happened to be driving. He thought at first she intended to speak to him from the side of the line, but when her rash act was committed he became nearly frantic, and it required the utmost efforts of the stoker to keep him from leaping off the engine. The poor girl was shockingly mutilated, but did not die till late the same night.

CITY HAT COMPANY's only retail address is Nos. 109, 110, and 3, SHOE-LANE, exactly EIGHT doors from Fleet-street. Particular attention is called to the distance of the premises from Fleet-street, the great success of the CITY HAT COMPANY having caused several imitators to open shops in the same vicinity with names very similar.—WALKER and FORTESCUE, Managers. —[ADVT.]

exists, though an employer of 200 men says that they are now grumbling at having to carry home weekly fifteen shillings in bronze. In a letter, Messrs. Truman, Hanbury, Buxton, & Co., say that they have in hand the enormous amount of £7,000 in bronze money which they would be glad to reduce. Under these circumstances it is plain that what the public wants is some means by which the excessive accumulation of some traders may become available to supply the deficiencies of others. As Messrs. Truman, Hanbury, Buxton, and Co. suggest, the Mint is an institution which might reasonably be expected to render this service to trade, and if its Master were authorised to receive the coin back and re-issue it, the public would be the gainers.

REMARKABLE GAOL DELIVERY.—The Mayor of Leeds on Saturday night issued a proclamation announcing that a previous mandate respecting the capture of stray dogs was withdrawn. A little later the fastenings of the temporary kennels on the Town-hall premises were unlocked, and the captives turned out to find their way home as best they could.

SHOCKING CRUELTY ON SHIPBOARD.—The ship Arran, of Greenock, sailed for Quebec at the beginning of last April, and shortly after sailing seven boy stowaways were discovered on board. Till sea-sickness overcame them the lads do not appear to have been ill-used, but afterwards and during the voyage they are said to have been subjected to the most cruel treatment. Six of the lads, who were miserably clad, two of them being barefoot, were left upon a detached field of ice near the Newfoundland coast, and told to walk to land, the only provisions given them being a biscuit each. Four of the poor fellows were picked up in a wretched, frostbitten condition by a passing boat, but it is believed the other two perished. The master and mate—Robert Watt and James Kerr—have been arrested at Greenock, when they narrowly escaped rough treatment at the hands of the mob. They have been remanded by the magistrates.



## THEATRES.

**HAYMARKET.**—Shakespeare's Othello and King John.  
**PRINCESS'S.**—Mr. Dominic Murray and Mr. Allerton in Shakespeare. Seven.  
**ADLPHI.**—Flying Scud. Mr. Belmore. Seven.  
**STRAND.**—Sisterly Service—The Field of the Cloth of Gold—Marriage at Any Price. Half-past Seven.  
**NEW QUEEN'S.**—The Lancashire Lass.—Fowl Play; or, Chikkin Hazard. Seven.  
**HOLBORN.**—Foul Play. Half-past Seven.  
**ROYAL AMPHITHEATRE AND CIRCUS, HOLBORN.**—Equestrianism, &c. Eight.  
**BRITANNIA.**—Lady Anne's Well.  
**CRYSTAL PALACE.**—Miscellaneous Entertainment. Open at Ten.  
**EGYPTIAN HALL.**—Maccabe's Entertainment, "Begone, Dull Care." Eight.  
**ST. JAMES'S HALL.**—Christy's Minstrels. Eight.  
**POLYTECHNIC.**—Miscellaneous Entertainment, &c. Open from Twelve till Five and from Seven till Ten.  
**MADAME TISSAUD'S EXHIBITION.**—Open from Eleven till dusk, and from Seven till Ten.  
**ROYAL ALHAMBRA.**—Miscellaneous Entertainment. Eight.  
**ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, Regent's Park.**—Open daily.

## THE SIGHTS OF LONDON.

## 1.—FREE.

British Museum; Chelsea Hospital; Courts of Law and Justice; Docks; Dulwich Gallery; East India Museum, Fife House, Whitehall; Greenwich Hospital; Hampton Court Palace; Houses of Parliament; Kew Botanic Gardens and Pleasure Grounds; Museum of Economic Geology, Jernyn-street; National Gallery; National Portrait Gallery; Patent Museum, adjoining the South Kensington Museum; Soane's Museum, Lincoln's-inn-fields; Society of Arts' Exhibitions of Inventions (in the spring of every year); St. Paul's Cathedral; Westminster Abbey; Westminster Hall; Windsor Castle; Woolwich Dockyard and Repository.

## 2.—BY INTRODUCTION.

Antiquarian Society's Museum, Somerset House; Armourers' Museum, 81, Coleman-street; Asiatic Society's Museum, 5, New Burlington-street; Bank of England Museum (collection of coins); Botanical Society's Gardens and Museum, Regent's-park; College of Surgeons' Museum, Lincoln's-inn-fields; Guildhall Museum (old London antiquities); Linnean Society's Museum, Burlington House; Mint (process of coining), Tower-hill; Naval Museum, South Kensington; Royal Institution Museum, Albemarle-street; Trinity House Museum, Tower-hill; United Service Museum, Scotland-yard; Woolwich Arsenal.

## NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All letters to be addressed to the Editor, 13, Catherine-street, Strand.

## The Illustrated Weekly News.

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SATURDAY, AUGUST 8, 1868.

## TRADE UNIONS.

THE theory of the abolition of the antagonism necessarily existing between master and man by the introduction of a condition of small partnership is by no means a new one. It is perhaps to be regretted that it was a theory so coldly looked upon at the time of its introduction that at present, when once more the advantages and disadvantages of the proposition are being discussed, it is looked upon as a novelty. The scheme which should long since have been ventilated, if not acted upon, has now to be considered from a thousand different points of view, and trade will have to drag through a slow length of opposition, ignorance, and panic in relation to this question, opposition which may impede the necessary success of a system rooted in much wisdom, which cannot annihilate the comparatively new idea.

No doubt there is a vast number of what may superficially be called practical obstacles in the way of such a change in the industrial world as would convert every operative in a factory, under certain conditions, into an actual partner in the firm. But we venture to assert that these practical difficulties may be set on one side by equally practical substitutes.

The paramount obstacle in the way of a system by which workmen would become a proprietary of a firm for which they worked, is the practical difficulty of choosing between keeping the financial state of a given firm dark, and of publishing the particulars, to a certain extent, by enabling every workman, by reference to the books of the firm, to ascertain its exact monetary state, and therefore the aspect of his own position in the business.

At the first view it may be felt that if a given workman of little or no character find by his inspection of the books of his firm that his yearly share of profits is 10% or 20%, he would sell the information he had obtained by his inspection of the books to a rival firm for a larger sum of money. That such a catastrophe is, in contemplation, exceedingly objectionable is not to be doubted; but, on the other hand, the question may be asked, "Is a commercial firm injured by the exact state of its affairs being made public?" This is most certain, that in event of an extended system of stringent publication of commercial accounts, those houses most stable would reap most ultimate benefit, while firms of a shaky character would the sooner be brought to the ground.

No doubt the introduction of such a system would strike at the very root of one of the principal conditions of successful trade—secrecy. No doubt it would annihilate adroit moves, by which large fortunes are made in a single hour. But the more advanced political economist of the day, and all of whose theories are permeated by the consciousness that political economy is not a science distinct from morality, that it is something more than a mere exact science—such a man would ask, "Is it morally right that a great sum of money should be made by one man in an hour?" Others must find the acquired fortune, and those others take the shape of the nation.

No doubt the necessary opening up of the financial

state of a given firm consequent upon the introduction of a system of extended partnership, is a very vexatious point in the practical working of the theory of what may be called social partnership. But, on the other hand, society is not without examples of the candid exposure of accounts resulting in benefit. For instance, can we measure the amount of panic which would be produced throughout England if at the ordinary cue in the parliamentary drama some fine year the Chancellor of the Exchequer refused to analyse his budget, and, at the same time, asked for so many millions? Why, in a great measure, the very success or non-success of the commercial year depends upon that momentous analysis of the affairs of the nation which is laconically called the Budget. Its undeviating yearly production, the undebated regularity with which the people receive the national balance-sheet session after session, have dulled the senses to a comprehension of the panic which would be caused by the withholding of that world-famous manifesto—if we may be permitted that term. And yet what is the exposure of the budget but the opening of the national ledger? And if the reassuring effect produced by the candid nature of the budget is so unquestionably great, by what shape of reasoning can it be shown that in the individual case such financial candour must be followed by serious commercial injury?

It makes a man no richer to be thought wealthier than he is. The individual will discover himself to be not any the poorer because his neighbour has the exact measure of his worldly possessions.

The system of small percentage partnerships based upon open accounts has been applied to French theatres and French dramatic writers with singularly good effect. The author is paid a percentage upon the takings, and therefore exactly as trade is good or bad, in other words, exactly as what the labourer sends into the market is valuable or valueless, so his pay. So in commerce, the labourer, did he possess a distinct interest in the ultimate sale of his work, his primary interest in it would be far grater than it now exists, when he knows that his interest in his work ceases on Saturday with the payment of his wages.

The superficial disadvantages of the small percentage partnership system may be many, but it must at once be felt that did the workman possess an ultimate interest in his and his shopmates' work, his natural and necessary selfishness as a practical man would make him as much the enemy of the bad or careless workman as he is now the friend of such men by the existence of trade unions. Indeed, parenthetically, it may be urged that it is a popular error to suppose the good hand trade unionist looks upon trade unions as a palladium. He thoroughly well knows in his heart that every lazy lout, or careless drone, in his union is a trade burden, who takes advantage of the position of things between the employer and the employed to live upon the work and the money of both. But the good hand trade unionist, with the practical clear-sightedness which is the result of steady work and steady perseverance, understands the resistive value of trade unions, and is content in the face of that fact to bear with its abominable drawbacks. There need be little hesitation in saying that there is a serious percentage of trade unionists who weigh upon trade union fearfully, and who practically are of not the least use to its interests.

But if the superficial objection to the comparative publication of private accounts is a strong argument against the admission of small percentage partners, on the other hand employers themselves frequently offer a striking example of the practicability of employers identifying their interests with the employed. What is more common than to find an old—a faithful servant taken into the firm as junior partner? And if such a fact is found advantageous in a general way in relation to the one, why is it to be condemned in relation to the many? If a commercial benefit is derived by the introduction of one steady man into the firm, why not by the introduction of a thousand? Such a proposition is chimerical only upon the surface, the merest delving will prove it to be self-evident. No doubt in practice there would be many difficulties to be smoothened, for no change is ever effected without certain primary sacrifices; no doubt the initiation of this system, which must sooner or later be ranged in the history of the social changes of this world, can only be effected under special conditions, and in special places. But a thought is not any the less true because hatched at the bottom of a mountain, and though a chain of social rocks may lie about the humanitarian thought which deals practically with the wearily old question of the antagonism of employer and employed and the attempt to destroy that warfare, the thought cannot perish. It may lie dormant, but its sleep will be the rest of patience, not of death.

**THE PARAGUAYAN WAR.**—According to Brazilian advices, the Paraguayan war is entering upon a new phase. The fall of Humaita is now, it is stated, a mere question of time, and may be expected hourly, "positive information" having been received that Lopez had determined to evacuate the fortress and fall back into the interior. "Deserters and prisoners of war," says the *Buenos Ayres Standard*, "all agree in their statements that Lopez has ordered the evacuation of this once strongest fortress of South America, and with the remnant of his once powerful army is preparing to dispute the pass of a deep and rapid river called the Tebicuri." The Marquis of Caxias, the commander of the allied forces, had consequently postponed his proposed attack, so as to spare further bloodshed.

**"LUXURANT AND BEAUTIFUL HAIR."**—Mrs. S. A. Allen's World's Hair Restorer or Dressing never fails to quickly restore grey or faded hair to its youthful colour and beauty. It stops the hair from falling off. It prevents baldness. It promotes luxuriant growth; it causes the hair to grow thick and strong. It removes all dandruff. It contains neither oil nor dye. In large bottles, price six shillings. Sold by chemists and perfumers.—Dépôt, 266, High Holborn, London. tr21joc17.—[ADVT.]

## JUST MARRIED.

ONE has heard more than enough lately of newly-married women, women who want to be married, and so forth: it has at least the recommendation of novelty, therefore, when we are invited to inspect a picture on the opposite side. A newly-married man, according to the *Leader*, is like one who goes about as in a dream. His mind is perplexed, as it were, with a sense of added being. He has evolved out of something something more. He is surprised at finding the people in the streets jog by him with the same stolid indifference that they manifested before he was married. He imagines that everybody must have seen the announcement of his marriage in the papers. Then, again, doesn't he look like a married man? Hasn't he considerably altered within the last few days? He may be wrong, perhaps, but it seems to him that marriage is deserving of more attention than it gets. It's a queer world, he knows, but not so queer as not to allow marriage to be a very queer institution amidst all its queeriness. Yet nobody seems to think anything of it, and particularly of him. His friends have collected round him, and after their first expressions of congratulation and hopes for the future, have laid no more emphasis upon the subject than if he had been married thirty years. He can't understand it, he confesses. The world in its nonchalance seems to lay no significance at all upon marriage; but were the world to feel like he feels, he guesses pretty truly that it would contemplate him with infinitely greater curiosity than it now evinces.

Would you have a newly-married man not keenly feel that he has been just born into a completely new world? Let the servant happen to range a pair of his wife's boots alongside of his own: what curious emotions the sight must inspire! If his wife happen to have a little foot and he a big one, no spectacle can be more suggestive. How dependent the little boot looks! how protective the big boot! Once having seen the little boots ranged alongside the big boots, it would be hard to imagine it possible for the big boots ever to be able to stand alone again. After all, the details that go to make up a young married life are very full of poetry. Let there be but love as a nucleus, and you will find the nebulous surroundings very beautiful and very pure. Still the life of a newly-married man is very dream-like. The circumstance of a young, lovable creature hanging on his arm and calling him husband may make the fact of matrimony very actual; but there is so much of what is visionary in the new existence, so much of what is new in the present life when contrasted with the life of even a few weeks before, that a man had need to possess, indeed, the vividest perception of the real, not to suffer himself frequently to sink into a kind of wonder and doubt as to whether things be really as they seem.

It is a provision in nature—a startling discovery, made by a Scotch usher—that a man must be a bachelor before he can become a married man. Now, as a bachelor, it is inevitable that he should acquire certain habits and forms of thought which it is the business, or, rather, the mission of a wife to modify or to put to flight. It is the abrupt subversion of an accustomed state of being that makes a newly-married man look upon life for a time as a dream. To find himself being constantly reproduced in the presence of his wife may inspire him with much such emotion as may be supposed to have animated the fabled gentleman, who, having accustomed himself to a shadowless existence for some time, suddenly found his shadow restored to him. Oddness may perhaps characterize the aspect with which life presents itself to him. It is odd for him, for instance, to find himself sea-sick face to face with a companion at breakfast; to find the teapot being employed by some other hand than his own; to find food set before him of which he had not the ordering; to find the servants no longer appealing to him; setting him aside, in short, as if he were grown suddenly inconceivably inconceivable. It is odd for him to hear people asking after his wife in his own name, as if the contingency of a Mrs. ever entering into his share of the family name had remained wholly unthought of. Then nothing can be more odd than the consideration he meets with at the hands of his wife's family—relations who had apparently before despised him, and treated him as if he had been an intruder and a robber. He is somebody now to them; but he can recollect the time when, in their eyes, he was the most emphatic nobody that ever entered a house. And what is very odd to him is the polite way in which he continues to treat these relations who had before abused him so warmly. He cannot at all understand why he should, and yet he is constantly doing so. He feels perfectly sure that were they to ask to borrow a ten-pound note he would lend it to them; he would tell you his motive was revenge—"nothing humiliates your enemy more than to lend money to him, sir,"—forgetful that, as a rule, men do not give away ten-pound notes to gratify a little personal malice, and forgetful, also, that he has taken unto himself a power which is silently and surely working him into all kinds of deeds—making him, in short, fulfil the matrimonial theory with a relentlessness of which there is every chance of his remaining for a long time ignorant.

We have considered newly-married people from a man's point of view; we have presumed to say nothing of the emotions and sentiments with which a newly-married girl may be inspired. At all times a man is a far easier study than a woman, but during the marrying period he is ten times more so. You can never get at a woman's thoughts either before or after marriage, especially after; you will, perhaps, be able to tell that she is happy or miserable, but to what extent she is happy or miserable it is given to very few to ascertain. Hence, in the consideration of newly-married people we have discussed only the one with whom we have the liveliest sympathy, satisfied that our fair readers will not misjudge us for not attempting to explain the riddle which it seems their especial missions and delight to reveal to us in their characters.



# PUBLIC OPINION.

We accept Sir S. Northcote's statement as a proof that there is no ground for uneasiness or apprehension; that the time of chronic deficits and yearly additions to the debt is over, and that the budget of India is likely, at no distant period, to exhibit a constantly increasing surplus of revenue over all expenditure, except that expenditure on paying improvements which itself tends to increase and not to burden the revenue, and which adds to the comfort and well-being of the people far more than proportionately to its effect on the income of the State.—*Standard*.

We regard with extreme jealousy every proposal to borrow money for public works in India, but it would be pedantic to deny that occasions may arise when such proposals ought to be accepted and acted upon. There is a concurrence of opinion that such an occasion has arisen. The propriety of undertaking certain definite works has been repeatedly urged by the Governor-General in Council, and has been acknowledged by successive Secretaries for India at home. Under these circumstances it is plainly good policy to make a deliberate calculation of what is required and to provide accordingly.—*Times*.

We think the rule with regard to public works which has been laid down by the Secretary of State in a recent despatch to the Government of India seems in every respect sound and wholesome. "Extraordinary" charges are for the future to be made only for public works, either of a reproductive kind like irrigation canals, or "special fund works," which are undertaken for an immediately valuable object by some local municipality. This rule, it may be hoped, will at once encourage a fair expenditure on public works, and repress effectually the disposition of Indian officials to shift ordinary expenses on every occasion to the extraordinary balance sheet, and so to nibble away at the capital of the country for charges that should fall on income.—*Daily News*.

We are ashamed to see that the remnants of religious bigotry are still so considerate as to drag our legislators through so much folly and trumpery in regard to the new Poor Relief Bill. There is one clause in that measure which is necessary simply because at present a minister cannot enter a workhouse at all without permission of the authorities, and it is necessary to ensure him free access. On this an amendment has been tacked, prohibiting the minister's visits wherever an inmate "being above the age of fourteen years, and after having been visited at least once by such minister, shall object to be instructed by him." This is practically saying that a minister shall not be allowed to make more than a single attempt to gain a hearing. One would like to know what would be the effect of a chaplain's or a clergyman's ministrations if he were never allowed to appeal more than once to an erring member of his flock. Again, it is difficult to listen with gravity to a serious discussion whether it be at the age of twelve or fourteen that a child becomes competent to "select his religion." Mr. McLaren declares that he knows children of twelve who could puzzle members of Parliament on religious subjects. A similar feat was performed by Robinson Crusoe's man Friday, and in later times by a South African savage on a bishop. It is absurd that if a little vagabond of twelve years gets "bored" with the service or the Sunday-school to which the priest or minister takes him, a State department must be called upon to inquire into the tenderness of his conscience and the precocity of his wits.—*Times*.

We discover too much reason to fear that many modern Dissenters have lost or "outgrown" their Protestantism. Once twice have we seen positive declarations on their part that the Act of Settlement is indefensible, and must be given up. And when the Romish priests renewed their attack on our workhouses, which they have been carrying on for years, they found an assistant, only last week, in Mr. Edward Baines, M.P. for Leeds. That gentleman, an eminent Dissenter—we are sorry that cannot use the old phrase, an eminent "Protestant Dissenter"—we gave his vote, and his speech also, in favour of forcing a Romish chaplain, with altar and all other Romish paraphernalia, on the workhouses of Marylebone and St. Pancras, at the expense of the ratepayers! Yet the Romanists distinctly avow their expectation of reconquering this realm of England; and maintain and re-assert, in all their recent publications, the fitness and propriety of the massacre of St. Bartholomew.—*Advertiser*.

No man was ever more careful and conscientious in the distribution of patronage than Lord Cranworth. Of this we may mention a remarkable instance:—Two important measures of law reform were passed during the time that Lord Cranworth held the office of Lord Chancellor—the acts establishing the Probate Court and the Court for Divorce and Matrimonial Causes. These measures created enormous patronage, and, according to usual custom, that patronage was given to the Lord Chancellor. Lord Cranworth, however, refused to take it, and gave the whole patronage, amounting to more than £30,000 a year, to the first judge appointed—the late Sir Cresswell Cresswell. There has passed from us an amiable and a good man, whose unostentatious virtues will long be remembered when the more brilliant qualities of some of his colleagues and rivals have been forgotten.—*Morning Post*.

## DEPARTURE OF THE QUEEN FOR THE CONTINENT.

The Queen embarked at one o'clock on Wednesday from Osborne, on board the Royal yacht *Victoria and Albert*, to proceed to Cherbourg. The *Galatea*, *Enchantress*, and *Alberta* Royal yacht formed the escort. Her Majesty passed the Royal Yacht Society's Club House at a quarter past one o'clock, but as this is a private visit to France and Switzerland, no salutes were fired.

## THE STATE OF THE ODDS.

SUPPOSE there are two horses (amongst others) engaged in a race, and that the odds are 2 to 1 against one, and 4 to 1 against the other, what are the odds that one of the two horses will win the race? This case will doubtless remind our readers of an amusing sketch by Leech, called (if we remember rightly), "Signs of the Commission." Three or four undergraduates are at a "wine," discussing matters equine. One propounds to his neighbour the following question—"I say, Charley, if the odds are 2 to 1 against Rataplan, and 4 to 1 against Quick March, what's the betting about the pair?" "Don't know, I'm sure," replies Charley, "but I'll give you 6 to 1 against them." The absurdity of the reply, is, of course, very obvious. We see at once that the odds cannot be heavier against a pair of horses than against either singly; still there are many who would not find it easy to give the following correct reply to the question:—The odds against one horse being 2 to 1, his chance of winning is equal to that of drawing one white ball out of a bag of three, one only of which is white. In like manner the chance of the second horse is equal to that of drawing one white ball out of a bag of five, one only of which is white. Now, we have to find a number which is a multiple of both the numbers three and five. Fifteen is such a number. The chance of the first horse, modified according to the principle explained above, is equal to that of drawing a white ball out of a bag of fifteen of which five are white. In like manner the chance of the second is equal to that of drawing a white ball out of a bag of fifteen of which three are white. Therefore the chance that one of the two will win is equal to that of drawing a white ball out of a bag of fifteen balls, of which eight (five added to three) are white. Thus there remain seven black balls, and therefore the odds are 8 to 7 on the pair.—*Chambers's Journal*.

## THE MANCHESTER CATASTROPHE.

THE number of sufferers by the accident at the Victoria Music Hall at Manchester is ascertained to be 23 persons killed, mostly by suffocation in the crowd, and 12 others hurt, chiefly by internal injuries. It would thus appear that the fatal results were entirely due to the extreme pressure of a great body of people rushing through narrow outlets, and in no instance to a cause at first assigned, that some of the audience threw themselves from the windows. This seems disproved by the fact that of all the cases treated at the Infirmary there was only one of a fracture of a limb. This deplorable accident, as all our readers know, occurred at a place of amusement known as Lang's Victoria Music Hall, Victoria-bridge. The rooms in which the entertainments take place occupy the three upper floors of a four-storey building, the outer portion of which is a range of shops. Nearly 2,000 persons were admitted at 21. each, the ordinary price, to witness the benefit performance of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford, vocalists. The performances commenced at half-past six. Shortly after ten, some youths who were in the front part of the audience in the pit, in their eagerness to obtain a better view of what was going on upon the stage, stood upon the benches, one or two of which were broken by the violence of the movement. Two or three of the lads who felt themselves falling from the benches tried to hold themselves up by clutching at a slender gas pendant. The pipe broke in two, and some one at once plucked it fast with paper. No evil consequences would have followed had not somebody in the pit raised an alarm of "Fire!" There was immediately a rush to the staircase from the two upper galleries. The staircase is five feet wide, and winds up between walls from the ground floor to the top gallery, with a landing stage at each gallery. The crush of people attempting to leave was terrific, and appears to have been the sole cause of the loss of life. Mr. Clifford rose up on the stage and did all he could to allay the panic, by telling the people there was nothing to fear if they would keep their places. All remonstrances were vain. Men and women struggled through the three outlets to a narrow corridor which leads to the common staircase, and precipitated themselves recklessly one over another down the first flight. The degree of pressure at the onset may be judged from the fact that out of an audience of nearly 1,000 in the two galleries scarcely a score forbore to join in the scramble. The other half of the audience, who were in the pit, would find comparatively safe egress from a separate staircase. From a quarter-past 10 to 11 o'clock three dead bodies were received at the Infirmary. A large number of severely injured cases were also taken to the Infirmary, of which 10 or 14 were considered so serious that they were sent for treatment to the surgical wards. Of these several are set down as dangerous cases. Eight persons, after receiving treatment for bruises and contused wounds, were sent out. Shortly after the accident occurred, and as soon as information of its serious nature had had time to spread, a large and deeply excited crowd gathered outside of the Infirmary gates, many of whom were women, who, believing that their friends might be among the killed, made clamorous and weeping entreaties to be admitted to the dead-house, but up to midnight it was impossible to admit anyone within the walls, and none of the bodies had been identified.

It may be mentioned as testimony of the confusion and bewilderment to which the morning applicants at the Infirmary were reduced by their distress, that between eight and nine o'clock two bodies were claimed as those of persons named Parkinson and Sellers, who, it afterwards turned out, were not dead, and, so far as we can learn, were not present in the music hall when the accident occurred. The mistake was not discovered until the supposed bodies of Parkinson and Sellers were unmistakably identified as those of other persons by their friends.

The dancing saloon is a separate room entirely, above the music hall, and was unoccupied at the time of the accident. Since the death of Mr. Benjamin Lang, whose name it bears, the place has been tenanted by Mr. R. D. Davies, who was absent last night, being at Buxton for the benefit of his health. According to a notice posted up on the premises, boys are not admitted to the music-hall, but it is probable that on occasions of benefit nights the rules of the management are considerably relaxed. Certainly there were many turbulent spirits in the crowd last night, and several benches were broken and had to be removed some time before the accident occurred which resulted so fatally. There was also at last one other gas pipe broken in the pit, and safely plugged again, long before the pipe was broken near the stage, as above-mentioned. But this first breakage caused no alarm; indeed, it appeared to be talked of as rather a common occurrence—a piece of mischief such as might be expected from "those lads," and too familiar to cause any disquiet. The nature of the entertainment may be gathered from the fact that the momentary cause of excitement, when the two or three benches gave way at the last, was the event of a "sack race" across the stage. Even after the rush from the "hall," it is doubtful whether £5 of damage could be found to have been done to the building or its fittings. The principal breakage was that of an iron balustrade, which extended down the middle of the stairway from the galleries. The object of this division was to keep people going upstairs on one side the rail, while the other side was free for descending. This firmly rivetted railing was forced out of its fastenings on each step of the stairway by the pressure of the crowd, who attempted to pour down it. The barrier removed, the whole five-foot space was left clear. The steps themselves, apart from the width of the stairway, are too narrow for any but careful walking, and for a crowd rushing down, it would be little better than descending a ladder. The dead bodies are almost entirely those of young men and boys, including a number of the "Arab" type, who frequent the streets in the neighbourhood of the railway station. There are only three women among the number. The inquiries made at the Infirmary this morning after "missing friends" revealed a social fact at once sad and suggestive. Setting aside the number of those who made their way to the Infirmary office from mere motives of curiosity, a class which, as far as possible, was rigidly excluded from the precincts of the building, there were scores, probably hundreds, of applications by terrified parents after children who had not been home during the night, and whose forms might be laid out lifeless in the mortuary, or stretched in pain on the beds in the surgical wards. For some hours in the morning, until the list of identification approached completion, the corridors of the infirmary were thronged by such applicants. They were mostly persons belonging to the lowest classes, but they also included a large number of working men, who, having heard of the accident at their early work in mills and warehouses, came in their shirt sleeves to dispel in most instances, in one or two unhappily to confirm, their fears. One and all, it is proper to add, received the kindest attention from the medical staff and officers on duty at the Infirmary.

The inquest on the bodies was formally opened at eleven o'clock by Mr. Herford, city coroner. Inspector Matthews said he had examined the building, and had left it in the charge of two constables, so that the jury might have an opportunity of seeing it in the state in which it was after the occurrence. The jury then proceeded to the Infirmary to view the bodies. The inquest has been adjourned.

LET not your hat spread a false report to your discredit: for of a truth, a shocking bad one tells tales—it bespeaks a small banking account and a purse at a very low ebb. Therefore our advice is this—GO TO THE WESTERN HAT COMPANY'S WAREHOUSE, 403, OXFORD-STREET, just three doors from the new entrance to the SOHO BAZAAR, and try one of their celebrated Paris-made Hats, at a price that can scarcely be felt.—[ADVT.]

## LITERATURE.

"The Rise and Fall of the Emperor Maximilian." By Count Emile de Keratry. Translated by G. H. Venables. London: Sampson Low, Son, and Marston.

MANY persons will read this narrative by Count de Keratry with pain and vexation. The author is not free from prejudice; but, on the other hand, if he is not blind to the faults of the Emperor Maximilian, he is, beyond doubt, very kind to the virtues of the unfortunate prince. We may be inclined to dispute the author's conclusions, but we are unable to slur over his facts or to impugn the documents which he publishes. When the news of the downfall and subsequently of the death of Maximilian reached Europe the general sentiment was one of deepest commiseration, and the general opinion was that Maximilian had been treated unfairly by the French Government, and had been the victim of the most outrageous fortune. The unhappy fate of the Empress Charlotte, the intrigues of the French Opposition, and the mendacity of the Radical press of the United States, intensified the public sentiment and confirmed the popular opinion. We may still pity and revere the unhappy widow of Maximilian, and we may still deplore the cruel fate of the Austrian Prince; but no one who reads attentively the narrative of the Count de Keratry will condemn the French Government or exonerate the judgment of Maximilian. We refer not to the policy of intervention or to the policy of the French in Mexico, but we assert that Maximilian was not abandoned, and that Marshal Bazaine and General Castelnau did all in their power to save him from the fate too plainly impending. From the hour that Maximilian entered Mexico until the hour of his captivity his conduct was vacillating, and he utterly belied his European reputation for statesmanship. When, for example, it was manifest that he must be left to his own resources, and that he could no longer count on the military support of France, he effected what our author calls a coup d'état, that is to say, he formed an Ultramontane Government. "The news of the coup d'état was late in reaching the French headquarters' authorities, whose astonishment only equalled their regret; for the choice that the Emperor had made of this most extreme party was equivalent to a declaration of war against the great majority of the nation." The last act of the drama is particularly painful. Maximilian resolves and re-resolves. Now he will abdicate, and next day he will fight for his crown. Now he is grateful to the French marshal for his unceasing kindness, and anon he treats the marshal with coldness. But the French commander was faithful to the last. He lingered in Mexico in the hope that Maximilian would accompany him, and he made great provision to secure a retreat for the Emperor. We pay homage to the Royal qualities and private virtues of Maximilian. We deplore his violent death. We cannot remember the condition and sorrows of the Empress Charlotte without painful emotion. Yet we cannot think that as a King Maximilian repaid what he did not sow. It seems to us not improbable that he might have been at this day Emperor of Mexico if he had possessed the genius for statesmanship with which his European admirers credited him; and most assuredly his captivity and violent death were the result of his persistently refusing to follow the advice of the French commander.

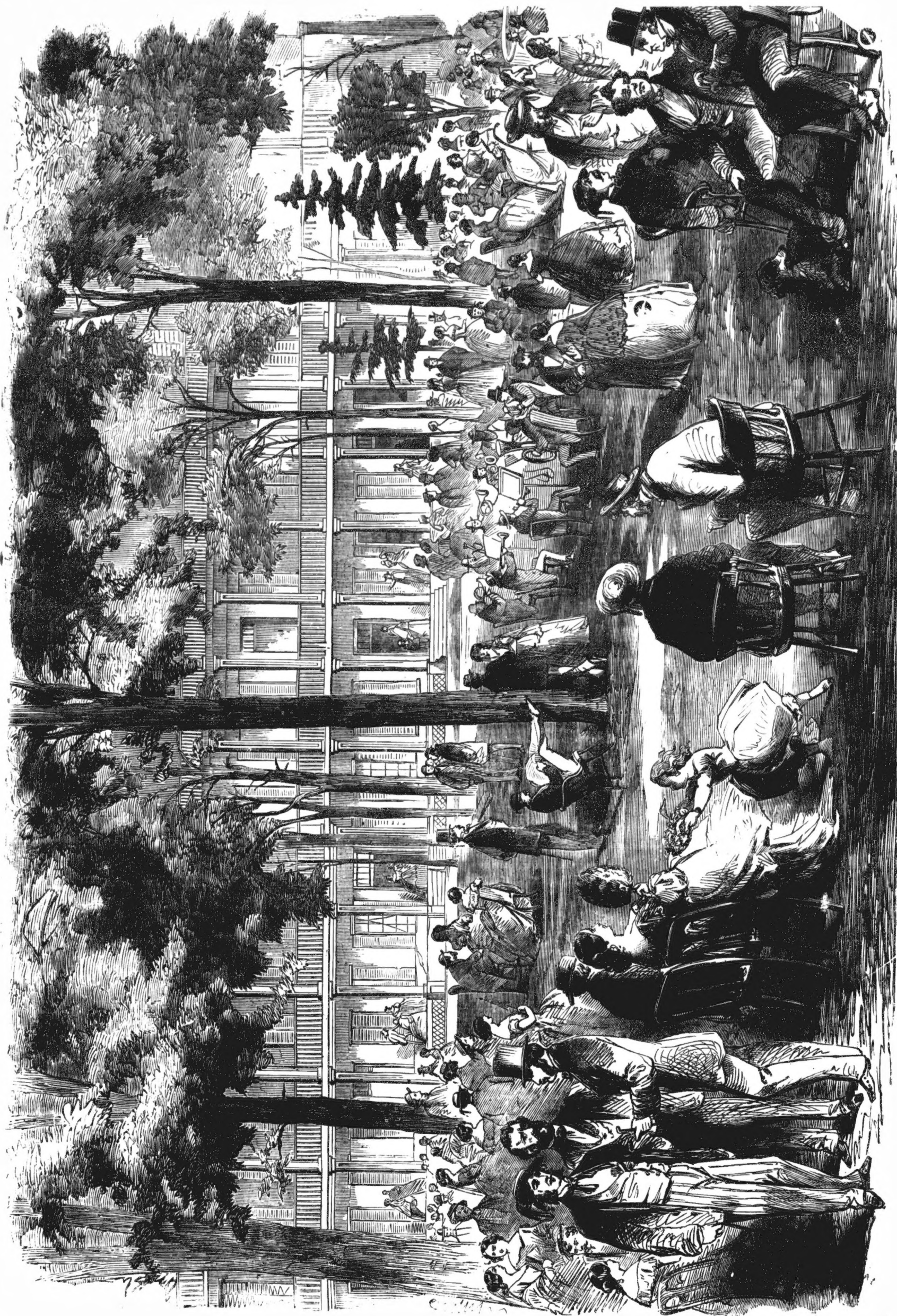
ODD FELLOWS' FETE AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.—For several years past two days in the month of August have been set apart for fêtes on a large scale at the Crystal Palace in aid of the Widow and Orphan Fund belonging to the London district of the two large friendly societies of England, viz., the Manchester Unity of Odd Fellows and the Ancient Order of Foresters. The former now numbers over 400,000 members, and the other follows close in its wake. On Monday, being Odd Fellows' day great exertions were used to insure a large attendance. From an early hour in the morning the stations of the railways running to the Palace were crowded with Odd Fellows and their families and friends, and before noon more than ten thousand persons had been taken to Sydenham. The roads leading to the Palace were crowded with pleasure vans and other vehicles. The proceedings on the grounds opened with a grand procession on the terraces; after which the varied amusements of the day commenced, including an entertainment by comic singers, a balloon ascent by Mr. Coxwell, a display of the fountains, military sports by members of the order belonging to the household regiments, &c. Dancing in the grounds, and the usual social games were also entered upon with great vigour. According to Mr. Grove's official returns of visitors, the admissions by season tickets were 1,685, and on payment 15,925; total, 17,611.

EXTRAORDINARY OCCURRENCE.—The heat of the weather has been very great, but we hope that it has not in many places produced effects so alarming as that described in the following paragraph, which we take from the *Northampton Herald* of Saturday last:—"A correspondent sends us the following, which he says he, with others at Brackley, believes to be true. He obtained the particulars from the man himself to whom it happened: 'On Tuesday last, Mr. Webb, assistant to Mr. James Taylor, of Woodend, the well-known purveyor of cream cheese, was driving on his round in a dog cart, and when near Towcester, at about noon, feeling the heat and glare of the sun very oppressive, he put up his umbrella, when suddenly, he says, a peculiar hot blast seemed to strike him, and in a moment his umbrella was in flames and consumed. The rug at his feet was partly burnt, as was also the horse's nosebag, which was lying close to it; one of Mr. Webb's hands was also much scorched, though not blistered. The grass on the side of the road, too, took fire at the same time.' The correspondent adds, 'I send you this at the risk of being thought excessively credulous, but Mr. Webb has shown me and many others the things that were burnt, and speaks of the matter in a very serious manner.'

"DESCENDING INTO THE GUTTER."—"The *Saturday Review* produced on this subject (the presence of Mr. Finlen in a deputation to Mr. Gladstone) the most malignant and disreputable article which we ever remember to have read in a paper of high general ability and culture. It was called 'Mr. Gladstone Descends into the Gutter,' spoke of him as having voluntarily taken a 'mud bath,' with the intention of drawing out on 'homoeopathic principles' his 'peccant humours,' and after two columns of coarse abuse ended in these words,—'the leader who in the blind lust for adulation submits to the greasy hug of the pinder to obsecrate and the accomplice of blasphemy and the avowed advocate of Fenianism, which Finlen is, must not be surprised if he alienates the confidence of friends, and while exasperating the acrimony of enemies, repels the sympathies of the serious and reflecting.' We say deliberately that the man who wrote that is discharging for the educated classes of society precisely the same kind of evil and purulent function which it is stated that Mr. Finlen performed for vulgar people as the advocate of the judge and jury club. Such an article in such a journal impresses us as almost a national calamity, certainly strikes the public press as a reason for the deepest professional shame at a slur on their calling and repute."—*Spectator*.

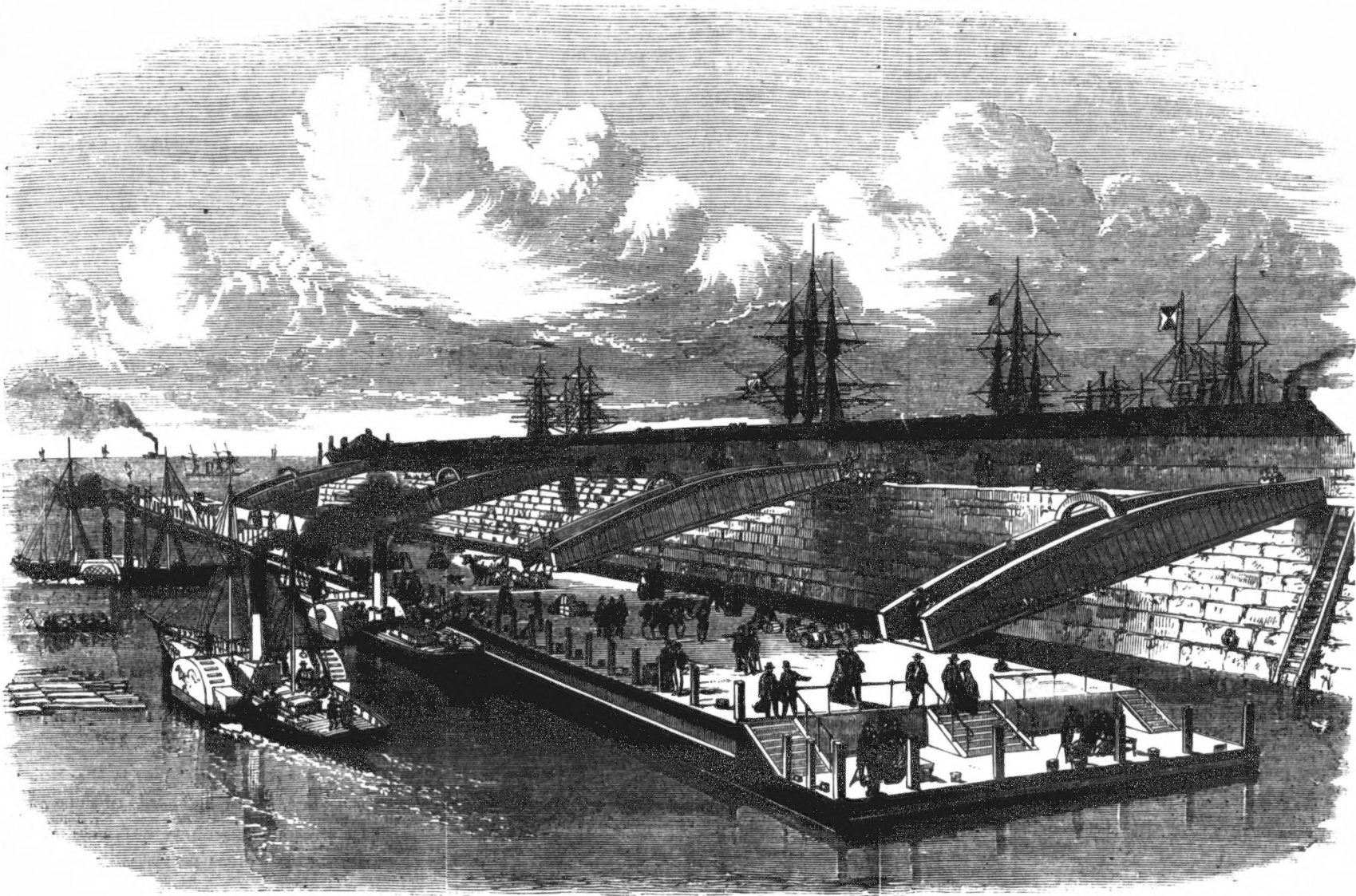
THE CONDEMNED CONVICTS AT NOTTINGHAM AND MAIDSTONE.—A memorial praying for a commutation of the sentence of death passed upon Lucy Buxton for the murder of her child, has been forwarded to the Home Secretary, but we believe no answer has yet been received. Therefore, in all probability, the law will be carried out to its fullest extent, and according to the new act. FIRE AT GATESHEAD.—A great fire has occurred at Gateshead, on the premises of the Jarro Chemical Company, and raged for several hours. The damage is estimated at £100,000, and 500 men are thrown out of employment. Several men were injured by the falling in of the roof, but no loss of life is reported.





THE PROMENADE AT SARATOGA SPRINGS, UNITED STATES.





THE LANDING STAGE AT LIVERPOOL.

## Our Little Village.

THE STORY OF AN ACCIDENTAL DOUBLE MARRIAGE.

### CHAPTER VIII.

#### THE FRIGHTFUL CATASTROPHE.

LITTLE, as we all chattered at the flower show, little did we think as we commented on Sir Thomas's attention to the artist—little, very little did we think of the awful crash about to fall upon us.

I have said that the Rev. Martin Cuthbert fired off great mental guns at the Romanists almost through every sermon he preached. Then how could we be prepared for the dénouement?

Some two or three weeks after the flower show, and while Miss Mac was working away like half-a-dozen combined little women, Mrs. Bodderly was making up a cap in her morning parlour. Mrs. Bodderly, amongst many other clever performances, could certainly make up a cap with great taste.

Suddenly Mrs. Bodderly was paralysed by the knock of a morning caller. Mrs. Bodderly might well be paralysed, for Pilkington had tacitly agreed that no morning calls were to be made on a Saturday—a day of marketings, harassings, and general clearing out; hence Mrs. Bodderly might well be shocked when she heard the knock of a morning caller—a low, timid, vagrant knock, as one out of sorts and wanting support.

Came in, no card, but Madge with her eyebrows nearly arched into her head, and pinching herself dreadfully.

And following her moved the form of a lady in the deepest woe. "My dear Mrs. Cuthbert," said Mrs. Bodderly, dropping the cap, and coming forward over a dust pan and brush, which for a mere moment brought out the petrified putty look.

"My dear Mrs. Cuthbert!"

"Oh, Mrs. Bodderly, give me a chair and a cup of water, or I faint."

And Mrs. Cuthbert flung herself weeping into a fauteuil.

As for little Madge, all sense of the proprieties had departed from her, and she stood staring like a mere vulgar maid, and not the initiated of a Bodderly.

"I'm sure," said Mrs. Cuthbert, and then she stopped and struggled over the glass of peculiar port Mrs. Bodderly had dexterously poured out for her.

"I'm sure, what my poor dear brother the bishop will say when he comes to hear of it, his poor dear sister is unable to say. Twenty years, I assure you, Mrs. Bodderly. Lizzie was our eleventh, though I only the third child, and not a single difference I assure you, as my brother the bishop could prove."

Mrs. Bodderly was so astounded that she forgot to put down the port, and looked as though prepared to charge the reverend and agonised visitor to the very tip of her tongue.

"I'm all amazement," said she.

"And I all grief. I assure you, twenty years, as my—goodness gracious me what shall—what shall—what shall I do?"

"I—I really don't know, Mrs. Cuthbert. But what does it all mean?"

"It means, Mrs. Bodderly—it means I am an abandoned woman."

Mrs. Bodderly has since declared that she never felt such a shock throughout her existence as this communication communicated.

Madge has also said that the solemn way in which "missus" put down the decanter was "offe."

"Yes, abandoned; my broken heart, for it is broken, Mrs. Bodderly. Oh, that ever I should live to see this day. Oh, Mrs. Bodderly—send that girl away—send her away directly."

There was no need to send that girl away; with a half-feeling of being a cause of abandonment, Madge fled from the room, and closed the door upon those ladies; nevertheless, I am in a position to make out the interview.

"He has deserted me," said the vicar. "Woe—woe is my fate, and I must go to my brother the bishop. *Delenda*, indeed as he would say, *est Cathargo*. Oh, that ever I should live to see this day," added Mrs. Cuthbert, with an air which seemed to say if she had died to see this day it would have been bearable.

"Heavens! What can it be?" said Mrs. Bodderly to the furniture.

"To think," said the visitor, "How I have striven—how I have worked—how I have toiled—how—how I have, have DONE, and that it should come to this!"

"Surely!" said Mrs. Bodderly, ready to burst through the rigouries, and shake the news out of Mrs. Cuthbert.

"I have always been the best of wives."

"Oh, certainly!"

"I have always been the best of mothers. Oh, give me a little water. Thank you. I say I have always been the best of mothers!"

"Oh, beyond a doubt!"

"Ask my brother the bishop!"

"There is no need to ask his lordship!"

"And to think it should come to this!"

"To what?" said Mrs. Bodderly, in a semi-frantic state of curiosity.

"What! Mrs. Bodderly. Oh, my broken heart. He won't see me."

"Who, your brother the bishop?"

"Oh dear me no. My husband, the vicar!"

"Won't see you?" said Mrs. Bodderly.

"No. He calls me temptress. Oh, that ever I should live to see this day. Pray give me a little more water, or whatever it is."

"He must be mad."

"Mrs. Bodderly, I told him so, through the keyhole!"

"You spoke to him through the keyhole!"

"Yes, till he stopped it up with the sponge, when I really thought I should have choked. Oh that ever I should live to see this day."

"I am perfectly bewildered."

"Oh what am I? He actually talked all about Shakespeare, and told me, through the keyhole, just before he sponged it up, that I was to go to a nunnery and repent. Repent, what of?"

"We—we are all sinners," said Mrs. Bodderly, still in a mazed state.

"Oh, but not sinners to that length, Mrs. Bodderly. Why what's to become of the children? I left Lizzy screaming on the mangle, and as for John, he was turning blue—and oh, do—do—do tell me what I shall do."

"Mrs. Cuthbert," said Mrs. Bodderly, in the most emphatic of voice, and as though she had only just discovered her condition.

"Mrs. Cuthbert, I am amazed!"

"Yes; but what am I? Oh! little did I ever think. But, oh, do—do—do tell me what I shall do."

"But how did it begin?"

"Oh, I knew when that MAN came there was mischief brewing. From half-past eleven to twenty-five minutes to three did he and the vicar remain in the study, and I assure you, Mrs. Bodderly, I knew no more what it was all about at the end than I did at the beginning. Oh, that ever I should live to see this day!"

"I am amazed!" said Mrs. Bodderly, again.

"Amazed! who wouldn't be?" said Mrs. Cuthbert, exhibiting the palms of her hands. "From that time to this, Mrs. Bodderly, he hasn't been the same man, and when he took up Lizzy, and said to that dear innocent, 'You are a weight of sin round my neck,' I really thought I should have gone right through the

window on to the pansies. Only think of my innocent being called a weight of sin!"

"I don't understand it yet," said the Bodderly. But she was to understand it next day.

"And how," continued Mrs. Cuthbert, "he is to get out, I don't know, unless we can poke out the sponge with a fork. Oh! dear, dear! and here's Saturday, and I know he hasn't written a line of his sermon, and that horrid man was at the vicarage yesterday. He came at twenty minutes to four, but I don't know when he went away, for I fainted in the summer-house. And what my brother the bishop will say to it remains an agony."

"Mrs. Cuthbert," said Mrs. Bodderly, "I do not speak from my social position, but I speak as a woman. Insist!"

"Insist! Mrs. Bodderly."

"Yes, insist—I say no more. Outraged woman can but insist. Insist, Mrs. Cuthbert, and your days will be happy."

To tell how the poor lady got out of the house, and how she reached home, would be doleful particulars. But good comes out of all evil, and good came out of our vicar's wife's deplorable grief; for Mrs. Bodderly quite forgot the dust-pan which, at the beginning of that call she had intended to visit heavily upon Madge's head. Happily that toiler escaped the rebuke, and was enabled to slink away the obnoxious furniture with meek dexterity.

Up came the next day's good Sabbath sun, and up rose the summer hymn of nature. Thou hast heard it—the soft murmur of the summer waterfall, with its perpetual cry of holy. Thou hast heard the word in the sweet call of the Sabbath birds, and in the gentle adoration of the breeze. Thou hast felt the Sabbath in the genial sunshine, in the twittering leaves, in the opening flowers. No matter the heavy business—no weight the cares of this world, we throw down the burden of our daily troubles, smoothen our brows, and look cheerfully about us. This is the day when the weariness of us may smile, and conscientiously lay aside work, and anger; and strife, play with the children; and forget the lies of the world and the fallacies of hope; and say, "God is good—praised be His name for ever more."

That Sunday morning, after the visit to Mrs. Bodderly on the part of the vicar's wife, was the sweetest of summer Sabbaths, and from half-past ten to eleven such troops of country worshippers came riding in and greeting each other that the churchyard was quite gay.

People remarked that the vicar came alone, that her head drooped, and that she wore a veil. But the chattering had too much to talk about much to mark the lady; and it was only when they were inside the building, and while the voluntary was being played that they remarked the vicar's wife was very pale, that her eyes were very red.

Suddenly they saw her flush, as her eyes rested fearfully upon a figure in one corner of the church. Some turned to see a not very attractive looking man. He had no beard on any part of his immense face, his hair was very short hair, and his black clothing, which fitted him tightly, was made of a dull-looking cloth.

The general curiosity was hardly past when the whole congregation was, so to speak, paralysed, and no one individual more so than Mrs. Cuthbert, at the sight at the head of the little procession which now filed into the church every Sunday morning.

For our unfortunate minister had taken off his grey whiskers, and shaved himself down close; also all his handsome hair was cut short into a kind of stubble. Well might Mrs. Cuthbert lower her veil and shake her unhappy head. As she said afterwards, she saw in a moment he had endeavoured to make himself look as much like that odious unknown man as possible.

He went through the prayers in the usual manner, though with some degree of noise in the responses and singing; but ah! what a sermon we got.

Our vicar, rising from his knees in the pulpit, instead of giving us a usual text, turned half from us, and pointed a forefinger at one side of the chancel.



Said he, "The Lord hath smitten this building—wherefore?" We all thought for a moment this was the text, but the next moment undeceived us.

"Why is it smitten?—we are unfaithful. Behold! the walls are rent from the top to the bottom."

A moment, and the whole congregation had risen to its feet, the tall form of Squire Joliffe towering as high as any there. A second more and the panic would have been irrepressible; but here the strong voice of Squire Joliffe, the heartiest of young men, broke forth—

"My men, keep to your seats."

Here it is said the mysterious individual in the corner looked dissatisfied.

Again our vicar burst forth, "We are unfaithful—we are not God's chosen—we have rebelled."

At this point the mysterious individual rose, and began to move towards the vicar.

"Stay you there—don't come a step farther. And as for you, Mr. Cuthbert—"

No, the particulars of that terrible Sunday morning need not be here set out. Joliffe was not a very wise man, but he was in the right of it, and the vicar was quite nowhere in the race.

You may guess what occurred by this remark on the part of poor Mrs. Cuthbert.

"Oh! don't hurt him; don't—don't hurt him." And she put out her hands towards the squire.

He turned for a moment with an assuring nod, and went heavily and steadily up the pulpit steps.

The vicar spoke madly—"Let no more be said."

"No, no!" cried the wife, as she stood at the bottom of the pulpit steps. "John Joliffe, he nursed you when you were a child. Do not hurt him."

"Don't be afraid, Mrs. Cuthbert," said Squire Joliffe; and then he gently pulled the poor old vicar from the place in which he had preached to us so long—from the time when his doctrine was as simple and pleasant as the Sunday people who flocked to his church to the but recent date when he changed.

May all honest people be spared a similar scene. I shall never forget the weak old vicar hopelessly striving against the human handcuffs which held his wrists. Gently but firmly John drew him down the steps. When they reached the bottom, Joliffe turned round, let go the wrists, which in a moment from a bloodless white grew angry red, and sat down on the stairs.

"Oh! Martin, Martin," said his wife, putting her hands about him. "Think of the children, husband."

"Temptress!" he muttered, as he pushed past her, and towards the vestry, followed by the stranger.

She, poor lady, fell back, and would have struck her head upon the stones, but that John Joliffe caught her.

"Oh, the poor dear children!" we all heard her say again.

And then we heard our squire return, "I'll look to them, Mrs. Cuthbert, and look up yourself."

"Oh, I shall never look up again; and oh, pray take me to my brother—"

"The bishop?" I know our unhappy vicar would have said, but the poor lady fainted.

It was a sight to mark Squire Joliffe carrying her down the aisle, and a sight we all pressed to see as we crowded out after our great landlord. And soon the church was empty—the great doors wide open to the sunshine—soon the great old building was silent, and all the human life in it was away there in the vestry with our lost minister and the cruel man whom we had marked—a stranger in a corner of our peaceful old church.

#### CHAPTER IX.

##### WINNY.

If I have not said Winny Macken was a delightful sight upon horseback, or rather pony-back, it shows how hopeless and cruel a thing is memory, indeed. There was no girl ever looked so well on horseback, or rather pony-back, as Winny. I have mentioned Cob several times, but he deserves special mention, taking the speckled shadow into consideration; and this especial shadow I refer to was to be seen by any fortunate man who happened to be in the neighbourhood on that sunny day. The scene was the short lane leading from Mrs. Marken's to Pilkington proper—the speckled shadow was the opposition the twittering green leaves made to the downward sunshine—the cynosure was Miss Winny on Cob's white back in her green habit and green hat, trimmed with a bunch of pink roses, blushing at being so near her brown and soft neck. She was trotting towards Pilkington, several stones' throw off, and patting the favoured Cob on the neck.

Barely had Cob taken twenty steps from the stable than Squire Joliffe, whose splendid place was higher up that same lane which Winny habitually blessed—no sooner, I say, had Winny ridden from her mother's door, than the Squire rode from his plantation at a gallop, and soon overtook our brown beauty.

Though I am anticipating, for I am relating an event which occurred three full weeks after that frightful scene in the church, and I need not say that during that time Pilkington yielded plenty of news.

For instance, there were immense surmises on the question, where had our vicar gone? That he went was certain, that he went without any worldly goods was beyond question, and this latter truth somewhat supported several antiques in their impression that our vicar had gone farther than he ever bargained for.

Then the vicar's wife—the very emphatically was carried off to my brother the bishop—she and all her tenderlings; and for some not utterly inscrutable reason upon her departure, the school children sprinkled green stuff about in the most artless way.

As for the vicar's personal investitures, she left them at the inn "to be called for," and there they remained, and possibly do remain unless removed by the medium of the active moth.

Then again, our Bishop—the Bishop in whose see Pilkington basked—his lordship came over with such an air that hundreds of people were convinced, had he been sent for in time our vicar would not have "fallen," or become a mystery.

Then there was the curate, that gentleman of whom the jocular and reverend Francis Bonaz had said papal things, he went nobody knew where and nobody much cared, for as the invalids said whom he visited, he "coldened you all over," and indeed, Tom Wishtory at our doctor's turned him out one fine day from the bedroom of an antique of the female kind, and whom he had nearly reduced to her final agony. Well, he was gone, and if the Bishop had not given us a kind of clerical help, who came down from the "Chapter" near St. Paul's we were told, and which we imagined to be an ecclesiastical provision, we should have been in a state of heathendom, as Miss Moggitt said. And that reminds me that a third mysterious departure was Miss Moggitt's blue umbrella, which evaporated on the same Sunday morning—nobody could tell how. Miss Moggitt of course could not tell how, but gone it was, a fact evidenced by the lady's solemn purchase of its replacement. She pronounced herself perfectly calm, but convinced that she was sitting on it at the time of that terrible scene in our church; and she intimated that in all probability "that man," meaning the stranger, had appropriated it. Miss Moggitt openly declared that it was her belief the whole three, meaning the vicar, the curate, and the stranger, had gone to Satan together; and she only modified this supposition the stranger would not have "owned" the umbrella, as such machines were not wanted in satanic regions. Miss Moggitt then remarked that they must have gone somewhere. And, indeed, as our jester said, it was clear Miss M. thought more of the umbrella than she did of

the translation, or she would have dropped the first and clung to her theory of the second.

But perhaps the most awful and most fatal domestic catastrophe associated with "our scene," as we call the Joliffe and vicar episode, was the discovery made by Miss Bellew, who, going amazedly to make a call on Mrs. Bodderly, immediately after the drama was ended, was incontinently admitted by Madge, when she discovered Mr. Bodderly administering something in a teaspoon to Mrs. Bodderly in a convulsive state on a couch. Mrs. Bodderly said, and she came to on purpose to make the remark, that it was aniseed, but Miss Bellew vowed, and very widely, that it was rum, and her cruel triumph was only brought to a crushing close through this remark on the part of Miss Moggitt:

"It seems, my dear, you know what rum is, or how should you tell it from aniseed, which I daresay it was?"

"Then, Miss Moggitt," said Miss Bellew, weak and defiant, "that proves I don't know the spirit you name."

You will mark that I have named Mr. Bodderly for the first time, and in all probability for the last. He was but Mrs. Bodderly's husband, and there was a termination to him. What dignity he had was a reflection from his wife.

But really this is neglecting the prettiest sight in all our town; I mean Winny on her white Cob speckled with sunlight.

The truth is, when Winny spoke of the squire, after that harrowing affair, she spoke out bravely in his praise, "thereby plainly showing her intentions," said Miss Moggitt, flourishing the new umbrella as though she would use that civilized encumbrance in a castigatory manner. Winny had indeed called the squire "a perfect brick," and altogether she had fanned the squire's suspected love for her to a perfect flame.

Truth to say, Winny had been rather cautious with the squire, but this exceptional time threw her off her guard, and cast Joliffe himself into a rapturous fever.

I do not think I have said Miss Moggitt always went about with her umbrella, and her feet in a pair of thick boots, but she did, and she was always going about, and she was at it upon that morning when Winny came rattling out of the shadowed lane with Joliffe by her side.

"Audacity," said Miss Moggitt, to the surrounding air, as her weapon fell into the dust, and she took advantage of having to pick it up to avoid nothing our village queen.

The two equestrians could not have gone twenty yards, and Miss M. was keeping her virtuous back held stiff towards them, when a cheery feminine laugh seemed to be personally and insolently addressed to her.

Miss Moggitt grasped her whalebones, and swept round with one indignant wave.

And this is what she saw.

The squire's whip lying in the road.

The squire's hat falling in the road close to that effect.

Winny jumping off Cob, still laughing, and leaving that animal to his own tendencies.

Miss Moggitt grasped her property savagely in two places, held it up before her like a divining rod, and then asked this question, "What does that mean?"

Then she saw the girl, still laughing, somehow get to the pastry-cook's, and marked Cob amazingly following his owner and putting his damp nose in at the door.

Then Miss Moggitt marked, and as she marked she in a manner seemed to retire behind her parapet, the great Pilkington squire, who until then appeared to be a status, suddenly lay into his horse (a boy had picked up his hat and whip) like a maniac—said, Miss M., "loike smook," said the civil rustic, and he and his horse were almost immediately only dimly seen in a dusty perspective, while Cob for one moment belied his character and started.

Miss Moggitt thrust her drab Berlin-covered dexter hand into her pocket, felt sure there was copper there, and she and the umbrella steered into our pastrycook's.

The girl was leaning against the counter, her elbows on it, and her face in her hands. She was still laughing, but, said Miss Moggitt in detailing the circumstances, "Anne Skeritt—she was crying too." What did it mean?

Whatever it meant, Miss Moggitt was not to find it out, for that spinster was left alone in the shop almost immediately, Miss Winny taking her departure with a few remarks which even Miss Moggitt could not construe into anything at all telling.

I am enabled to piece together the whole of this day's acts on the part of Miss Winny. To proceed.

Leaving the pastrycook's, she mounted the docile Cob again, and then put this question to a boy at whose hand Cob had been petulantly jerking a kind of indignant protest against the degradation of being held.

"Has the fly past?"

"Non-em," said the boy, and away Winny went.

Immediately Miss Moggitt came to the door and questioned the boy. Then she went back to her pastry, saying to herself, "Now, what can she want to go and meet the coach for? The new vicar to be sure. Well of all the—thank you, I can pick my own umbrella up myself, I suppose."

The road on each side of which our Pilkington stands is not a real highroad—that passes above half a mile at right angles to us as I have already told you, and the coach "dropped," to use a singularly improper because untrue term—dropped passengers for Pilkington at the head of our road. Well, just as Miss Winny reached the very head of the road, she remarked the coach, and the coach gig with Will from the inn, five boxes, a parrot in his or her cage, and a stranger—a not very attractive gentleman dressed in black, and wearing a white necktie.

The coach was standing still to watch Will in the operation of trying very hard indeed to force the five boxes into the one gig, on the principle of trying to get a quart of wine into a pint bottle, while the coachman, high, splendid, and scornfully affable was making his observations on the attempt.

In one moment Winny stood still, then she charged at the parrot-cage, which stood upon a pile of three of the boxes, and within which the parrot was screaming in the most injurious of notes; caught up that cage so rapidly that the parrot had quite enough to do to try for his just balance; and calling out, "All right, Will," she wheeled round and was flying back towards the village.

Now I really do not see why all the quiet feminine women should always be called tender and womanly, and all the dashing be described as masculine and unfeeling. And I take it Winny is a case in point, for I do think of all the tender-hearted young women I ever knew, Winny was the tenderest. And this astounding cage trick goes to prove my assertion.

She was very fond of Pilkington, and she wished to be happy and at peace. Now only those who have lived in small country towns know how much that happiness may depend upon the minister. If he is proud there is a sliding scale of pride throughout his parish, which only finishes in the workhouse and the grave. If he is conciliatory, visits all places, and all people, is simple, joyful, and, above all, trolls a meek bamboo walking-stick, then his parish is happy and simple, socially one in a great measure, and everybody is satisfied with everybody else.

Now Winny knew how doleful the unhappy Rev. Martin Cuthbert's spiritual reign had been. She knew of the vexations and the inconveniences caused by the sets, and hence when the new vicar was to arrive, she became very anxious to see what he was like, so getting from a well-informed source the day of his coming she dashed out on Cob's back to slake her curiosity at once. And her judgment was favourable, for as she saw the new arrival, a middle-sized thin gentleman with an ugly stoop, helping Will in that conjuring trick with the boxes, and smiling as he helped, she

said, "He'll do; no stupid pride there." Whereupon she swooped at the cage as aforesaid, and carried it off.

The coachman could not help applauding her with a "Tally-ho," and this calling him to a sense of his position he touched up his leaders and toolled away in really a style.

"Who is that extraordinary young woman?" said the middle-sized gentleman.

"Her's Miss Winny. Her's all right, her's sentrik as parsonized, but her's her, zur, and took my old ooman clean out of the roomatiz."

Here by some wondrous triumph of genius over matter-of-fact the chaise contained all the boxes, and Will, and the gentleman.

They got to the inn in fair time, but they had made one stoppage on the way, for the gentleman had marked a bunch of roses lying in the dust. He was kind enough to say they were superb roses.

Now the rash Winny, as she neared the village, became aware of the impropriety of a young lady carrying a bird cage on horseback, so she pulled up at the first house, where lodged a pensioner of hers, left her discordant burden there, and then galloped the weary Cob right away home.

Jump did she from her saddle like a woman of mettle, and she came running into the parlour—where sat her mother and Squire Joliffe.

"There, don't start, we're good friends—and besides you'll damage something. You're too large for a cottage—you ought to be in a mansion."

"That means, Winny, that I ought to be at home and not here—"

"Perhaps—but you're very quick-witted for a squire and a giant."

"If I was as quick-witted as you are heartless, Winny, I shouldn't want for brains."

"If you didn't want for brains, John Joliffe—you wouldn't want to marry me."

"Well," burst in Mrs. Marken, as she smoothed down her dress, "I always have said it, and I always will say it, that of all the queer, and of all the daring girls I ever stumbled over, you are the queerest and the daringest; and as for being turned out of your own cottage, Mr. Joliffe, I hope you'll stop to dinner; we've got—"

"No, mamma, you never stumble over me, you're too kind, and I'm sure Mr. Joliffe will not stop to dinner. There's not enough."

"Winny, what do you mean?" said the indignant lady.

"I swear I'll do whatever you want me," said the big man, clenching his hands, and breathing hard.

"Then if you do, John Joliffe, why don't you go away?"

"I say, Winnifred Marken, you shall marry me."

"Shall? why what did I do an hour ago, when you said you'd ride poor Cob and me down into the dust, if I made light of you? Why—why—I—I—laughed."

"You're a coward, Winny Marken."

"No; I'm a brave girl, squire."

"Well, Winny, whatever you are," burst in Mrs. Marken again, "of all the strange, and of all the—no, Winny, its no use patting me on the back, I'll not be put down. Of all the noble and of all the generous offers a man ever made, Mr. John, as I used to call him, when his poor dear pa was in a vale of tears, has made!"

"To you, mamma? Then you'd better have him, for you'll suit him far better than I should."

"Winny. Winny. Since this morning I've gone half-mad about you. I think—I swear I love you better than my own life."

"I daresay you do—now."

"Now!"

"Yes, in three months we should be killing each other."

"Well, of all the girls I ever did come across—why—"

"Pray be quiet mamma. You'd much better marry Gertrude Herriot. You may laugh, but she's much too good for you. Any woman's too good for you, unless it's a dairymaid."

"You've got no more feeling than my blood horse, Winny."

"I've got more sense than your blood horse's master, John Joliffe. Oh, don't storm and plange—it's no use; you won't frighten me. If you go on in this way now, what would you do if I were your wife?"

"Why do you serve me like this? I know you like me? Why won't you have me? I'll do everything you tell me. I'll be your footman, Winny Marken. You—you might put your foot on my neck if you liked."

"Thank you; I've got a safer footstool."

"Who is he?"

"He's this hassock."

"If it was a man I'd brain him."

"And then you'd be hanged, and there'd be one madman the less in the world."

"Well, of all the daring, and of all the—"

"Mr. Joliffe, pray, don't."

For the squire was thrusting his great red hands through his thick curling yellow hair, and hissing with his breath terribly.

"I tell thee, Winny, I shall go mad."

"Nonsense. Your fit will be over soon, Mr. Joliffe."

"It'll be all over altogether pretty soon now; for I'll hang myself, I do think."

"No, Joliffe, you're not such a fool as that."

"Well, of all the cruel, and of all the daring—you daringest of girls you, why don't you leave the room?"

"It is not time yet, mamma. I'll leave it at the right minute."

"I s'pose that'll be when I'm gone?"

"Perhaps."

"I—I—"

"Oh, speak out—I'm not to be frightened by an oath or two."

"Lord above! Winny, look here. I'll—I'll make over all to you if you'll have me. I never thought I could get into this state. Mrs. Marken, give me some drink."

"Mr. Joliffe, of course I will, and I do think, that of all the wicked, and of all the bad—"

"There, mamma, be quiet; and don't bring him any drink—he mustn't drink yet awhile."

As she spoke, and in a kindly tone, he bounded from the sofa about which the poor fellow had been rolling, and kneeling on the ground he flung his arms about her waist, and called, "Oh, wife—dear, merciful, kind wife! Be that, Winny. I shall die if you turn me off, Winny."

"All your talk is of what will become of you if I don't have you. You don't seem to think of me."

"Of you!—why, Winny, if any man looked at you I'd bend him double."

"What good would that do me?"

"That's nothing to do with it. Your mother's told me you're fond of me, and she says I may do my best. Will you have me for a husband, Winny Marken?"

"No."

"No?"

"No; not if you threaten to kill me."

"I say, will you marry me?"

"I say no—no—no."

"You shall!"

"Coward!"

They say he so crushed her right hand she could not use it for several days.

As for poor Mrs. Marken in all this disturbance—as for poor, good-intentioned, emphatic Mrs. Marken, she sat as though turned to stone.

"I could kill you with a blow!" he cried, glaring down upon the girl, who was very pale.



"You may kill me if you like, John Joliffe, but you never will conquer me."  
"Never?"  
"Never."  
What happened then?  
It is said that he struck her.  
Then it was that he must have repented and broken down into tears.

We often talk of the pain of seeing women weep; but ah! it is woman's nature. Now, with men tears are chary of bidding, and to see a great strong man weeping—to mark those passionate throbs—to mark those broad shoulders cringing—the mouth puckered, and the heavy tears forcing their way through the fingers, closely fixed upon the face, as though they would hide their master's fall—ah! this is the cruel sight. It does not seem a sin to look upon a woman weeping, but to see a man thus weighed down so terribly—it does not seem right to look upon him.

As he lay with his head and shoulders on the couch, the remainder of his body stretched upon the floor, she came to him and laid her hand upon his head.

"You may go now, old friend—you may leave the house now. I am not afraid of you, and see—here is some water."

He took her hand and kissed it.  
"You will soon forget all this—you will think it some bad dream, and no one will ever know anything at all about it, poor fellow. I have acted for the best—indeed I have. We could not be happy—indeed we could not; and I knew something like this scene would come, only I did not think it would be so terrible. And, indeed, I persuaded mamma to go away for a time, but she would not."

"Of all the—" commenced Mrs. Marken.  
"Pray don't speak, mamma, just now. Let me say all I wish to Mr. Joliffe. Mr. Joliffe, one of us must leave here, for a time at all events; and—indeed I don't think it is I who should. All this has not been my fault. I am sure I never encouraged you—never gave you the least hope; and when I laughed down in the village, I could have cried from very pity."

"Indeed, Winny? I—I'm very glad to hear that. I thought it so cruel in you to laugh—it was like a knife going through me."

"You see, we are too much alike—too obstinate, too defiant. You would soon leave me."

"No, no, Winny."

"I say yes, and who knows what would then happen. If I marry—"

"What—do you love somebody, Winny? God bless him."

"No—not at all—do not start—but if I grew to love anyone—if I married—it would be a man of little strength of character, who would rely on me, and whom I could strengthen. We manly women almost always marry such men, and it's the only chance of happiness we have."

"You're quite right, I dare say, Winny," said the squire, kissing her hand.

"But—you know how well I wish you, John Joliffe."

"I'm sure so, Winny—I'll go away from here. And—and you won't quite forget me."

"I think I'm the best friend you have, Joliffe. And now, good bye."

Here she offered him her hand, and positively this audacious young person stooped and kissed his cheek.

"Winny," he said—but in a weak, pleading, reproaching voice.

And then he lifted himself up from the sofa, and went out through the window opening into the garden.

As he did so Mrs. Clovelly, who had stood an amazed woman, for some moments clasped him unconsciously on his broad back, and quite as unconsciously she said, "Chirrup, squire—"

Which he did not, if to "chirrup" was to carry his head well. For droopingly he mounted his neighing and impatient horse and heavily rode away, his head still down, and his whole body heaped together.

"Well, of all the—and the"—said Mrs. Marken as she still sat in her chair.

"Poor boy," said Winny, as she looked after the desolate young squire, "poor boy, but it never could have been. I wish—I wish it could have happened almost."

The result of Mrs. Clovelly's admittance to a knowledge of the whole facts of the case, the opinion she thereupon founded may be variously acquired by those who deign to interest themselves in Mrs. Clovelly through the following thrilling episode.

That singular woman going down to the club pump for the purpose of refilling her pails, little Madge shot out immediately after with a can, came up as Mrs. Clovelly filled the first of her vessels.

"Good evening, Mrs. Clovelly," said Madge, and the next moment she was one splash from the tip of her eminent nose to the astounded shanks of her black cotton stockings.

(To be continued.)

THE WILL OF THE LATE SIR BENJAMIN GUINNESS. — The personal property of Sir Benjamin Guinness has been sworn under £1,100,000. He leaves his estates in Mayo and Galway to his eldest son, Sir Arthur; his estates in Kerry, Limerick, and Kilkenny, and £20,000, to his second son, a captain in the 1st Life Guards; his estate in Dublin, and his town house, to his youngest son, Edward Cecil. He leaves £30,000 to be invested for the sole and exclusive use of his daughter, the Hon. Mrs. Plunkett. There are a number of legacies to relatives and friends, varying from £3,000 to small annuities. The brewery is left to the eldest and youngest sons, and if one of them should retire from it, he is to receive from the other £30,000 and half the value of the stock. These two sons are the residuary legatees. Should the estate bequests fail from want of issue, the property is to go to Trinity College. The interest to be expended in maintenance of Protestant students of all denominations, Arians and Socinians excepted. There are no charitable bequests.

REWARDS TO NATIVES FOR KINDNESS TO SHIPWRECKED SEAMEN.—The Board of Trade have sent out to Her Majesty's consul at Tahiti a gold watch and chain for presentation to the King of Rarotonga, in acknowledgment of his kindness to certain of the shipwrecked crew of the *Anna Dorothea* in December and January last. The Board of Trade have also sent out an assortment of linen, cotton, and alpaca fabrics for presentation to the natives of Penrhyn Island, by whom the whole crew of the above-named ship were very kindly treated for more than a month. The *Anna Dorothea* struck on Starbuck Island, and the crew—18 in number—reached Penrhyn Island in the long boat on the 6th November last. On the 9th December six of them put to sea again in the long boat, and reached Aitutaki on the 19th, where they found the American ship *Alpha*, which carried them to Rarotonga. One of them joined the *Alpha*, but the rest were kindly taken care of by the king. The twelve men left behind on Penrhyn Island were taken off by the British cutter *Courier* six days after the departure of the long boat.

THE HARVEST.—Harvest throughout many parts of England is now making rapid progress. The wheat crop is abundant and of excellent quality, and early sown barley and oats on deep soils are also good. Peas show a fair crop, but spring-sown beans are a failure. Swedes and turnips have been ruined by the drought, the crop of hay has been light, and potatoes, though generally sound, are suffering from the prolonged absence of rain. Meanwhile the spell of dry weather remains unbroken. Of the 33 stations in Great Britain, on the Continent, and at Heart's Content, from which meteorological reports are daily received, rain fell at only one of them on Friday. On that day there was a slight fall of rain at Nairn.

## THE GARDEN:

### PLANT HOUSES.

Now, when many stove plants have finished their summer's growth, it will be necessary to devise means for properly hardening or ripening off the wood so formed. And as, in the majority of instances, tender exotic ferns are very generally grown in the same structure with hard-wooded plants, it will not be convenient to afford them very much sun or air. Some other convenient place should therefore, if possible, be provided for them. Vineries from which the main supply of grapes has been used, and especially those in which the vines are shedding their leaves, will afford good places for the purpose, as there they will receive a sufficiency of air, with sunshine so moderated as efficiently to bring about the object in view. Among the plants to which I allude may be enumerated *aphelandras*, *dipladenias*, *allamandas*, *Stephanotis*, *combretums*, *Franciscea*s, and others of similar habit, all of which need careful attention in regard to watering while in such a position. Some growers may not yet have placed their greenhouse plants out-of-doors, so hot has been the sun, and dry the atmosphere. *Camellias* and similar plants must not, however, be kept in longer, if the flower buds have become at all prominent. And it will be found that on those which flowered earliest, and consequently commenced their season's growth in good time, the buds are already very large for this early period. Nothing, therefore, but removal to a shady, airy situation will keep them back. I have known these to flower early in November, when pushed unduly through the summer, causing no little anxiety and disappointment to the grower. Afford, now that the season is advancing, a plentiful supply of manure-water to *chrysanthemums*, and as I have before advised do not "stop" them after the last week in July. Italian tuberoses, will also now, when their flowers are about to expand, be much benefited by a copious supply of liquid manure in a clearer state than that required for the former subjects. Where cuttings of *thyrsacanthus* *rutilans* have been put in, they will now need potting on; they delight in a free admixture of peat, leaf-mould, and sand. Tie out, and afford more air and light to *Achimenes* which are commencing to bloom. The same applies to *gloxinias*, which should not be moistened overhead after the flowers have commenced expanding.

### HARDY FLOWER GARDEN.

Loosen the ties of bandages attached to rose-stocks which were budded early, and which are therefore "taking" well. Finish budding all plants which it is intended to bud this season with as little delay as possible. Secure by means of sticks, or flower spikes, and which need such support. It will be absolutely some similar appliance, all *gladioli* which are pushing up their necessary to keep them well watered during the whole of their flowering season should the weather unfortunately continue as dry as it is now. Be mindful not to omit, as previously advised, making sowings of *polyanthuses*, *primroses* (garden varieties), *wallflowers*, *sweetwilliams*, and similar plants likely to be in request by-and-by. Most of the old "stools" here seem all but dried up, and are therefore in a sad plight for the purposes of propagation. Look well through the stock of spring-flowering annuals, such as *myosotis*, *silene*, *saponarias*, &c., and if a sufficient quantity of either is not above ground, it will be advisable to sow additional seeds in pans or boxes, to be pushed on, and picked out, when the proper moment arrives for that operation. Make a new first sowing also of seeds of *schizanthus* for blooming next spring. This favourite old plant does not receive a tithe of the attention of which it is deserving. Thin out the flower-buds upon *dahlias* where these are sufficiently forward for that purpose. By this means much finer blooms are insured than otherwise would be produced, without in any way depriving the plant of its general beauty. As so much future success depends upon the goodness or otherwise of soils or composts used in gardens, and their adaptability to each sort of plant, I do not hesitate to call special attention to the matter of getting into the compost yard as much good soil as possible upon the first opportunity, when sufficient rain shall have fallen to moisten the surface of pastures, &c., a little. Troubled as most gardeners are to get a load of good yellow or other loam at all times where the herbage is green upon pastures, there can now be little injury done so far as appearances go whilst the sward is so disfigured and brown. Besides, were a piece stripped of its upper surface at once, and grass seeds sown upon the bare place immediately, these latter would produce a green surface nearly as quickly as will the exhausted herbage itself, however genial the weather. At no time would the surface taken from the pastures, be better available than at present.

### KITCHEN GARDEN.

Make a first sowing of spinach for winter use; and should the weather continue dry, endeavour by the employment of mats or similar material to so shade it and keep it moist, as to insure ready germination. Of such importance is this crop likely to prove in the ensuing winter, that every effort must be made to insure a plentiful supply. Prepare also a good breadth of ground for the main sowing. As regards other crops, act in accordance with the weather; if dry, water, doing so, however, efficiently, where undertaken at all; and should genial showers supervene, carry out former suggestions.—*W. E. in the Gardener's Chronicle.*

### HINTS FOR AMATEURS.

Early in August, if not by the end of the previous month, we are generally favoured with some very heavy rain, often accompanied by thunder and lightning, after which vegetation becomes rampant, and weeds particularly grow at a great pace, or at any rate make themselves more apparent than before. A few remarks upon weeds and their eradication will therefore be seasonable.

And first, let us make up our minds what we mean by "a weed." You find a dandelion growing on your lawn, and you root it up, because it is a weed. You had some fine clumps of *Eschscholzia* last year, and now pronounce it a weed, because it is coming up everywhere self-sown. You introduced a plant of *zauchneria* californica a year or two ago, and its rambling roots are spreading like couch-grass all over the garden, and you dub it a horrid weed. These examples of the manner in which we are accustomed to use the word "weed," indicate very plainly that by a weed we mean a plant growing naturally, but out of its proper place, in our cultivated domain.

Now weeds are of three kinds: they may either be encourageable, endurable, or intolerable. As an example of an encourageable weed, I would mention *mignonette*, which is always desirable for its pleasant scent, and sometimes useful, as, for instance, in beds of *dahlias* or *larkspurs*, by carpeting the ground with a different shade of green, and by keeping the earth cool and damp. As illustrations of endurable weeds, I may mention variegated-leaved mint and *viola cornuta*. The former will grow from the smallest pieces of its roots, even after exposure to the drying influences of the sun's rays; while the latter plant is a most abundant producer of seed, which does not seem at all particular about soil, provided it is not too dry and poor. These two plants often appear where they are not wanted, and must then be rooted out, or transferred to some part of the garden where they can propagate themselves at their pleasure, and be ready for use when required. As instances of intolerable weeds, I would refer to groundsel, sow-thistle, clover, *barbina*, and *coltsfoot*, as amongst the commonest of those appearing in flower-beds, and which must be hoed up without mercy as soon as they appear. *Coltsfoot* and *barbina* are particularly troublesome, since their roots travel a long way under ground.—*W. T. in the "Gardener's Chronicle."*

## THE DRAWING ROOM.

### THE PARISIAN FASHIONS.

What has the Goddess Fashion decreed during the past week? my readers will naturally inquire. I can only answer, that the dame (more scolded at, by the way, than any dame in the world) has followed the general example—she has been idle, and done nothing, invented nothing. Fine *toile ecru* or brown holland, muslin, and striped cambric compose the foundation of every toilette, almost without exception. The weather is suffocating—what else is there to wear?

There is a positive furore for these striped cambrics—one of those rages that are from time to time affected in the feminine world for certain and special articles of attire. All the world wears striped cambrics at the present moment, the only difference being that those with purses of moderate length invest in a couple or three, while rich women order a dozen at least at a time.

The Marchioness de Gallifet has already appeared on the Dieppe sands in sixteen striped cambric dresses, all different one from the other. The prettiest was white striped with cerise; the petticoat had wider stripes than the skirt, and was trimmed with five narrow flounces. The skirt, looped up both at the back and sides a la Pompadour, was bordered with a single narrow flounce; it was opened up at the back the entire length, so as to form two wings, like what is called the "bee tunic." The chemise *russe* matched the petticoat, and above it there was a small *stole* high at the back, open in front and fastened down with three small bows of the same material. Round waistband, with a rosette at the side. Small black shoes with high heels. Striped stockings—in fact, stockings are now usually sent home from the dress-maker's to match these striped cambric dresses.

The Empress likewise patronises this same style of toilette, but her Majesty during this excessive heat rarely ventures out until evening. M. Prosper Merimée has had the honour of an invitation to Fontainebleau, and the Empress enjoys thoroughly the conversation of this witty academician. He accompanies her in her walks on the banks of the Seine, where she delights in wandering, hopeful perhaps of a fresh cool breeze.

M. Prosper Merimée is a fine old gentleman, with his regular features, grey hair, and fresh-coloured complexion. He is naturally satirical, but then his benevolence of character is so great that it tempers the more disagreeable quality, which only declares itself on very rare occasions.

The Empress of late has shown great pleasure in drawing literary men into the Court circle, and has become very studious in her habits. She evinces a decided preference for M. Alfred de Musset, and can speak of and criticise his works with marked talent, and an elegance of style that never forsakes her. But among French writers there is no talent which her Majesty recognises like Victor Hugo's; and it is now currently believed that it is through her intervention that his pieces are once more played in France. The reason of this preference may doubtless be traced to the Empress's nationality. Victor Hugo has placed the Spaniards on a pedestal. The Empress has all the pride of her race; and, if we analyse the matter, you will recognise that the first piece written by the exiled republican that was permitted to be heard again in Paris was "Hernani," the subject of which is Spanish, and that the second was "Ruy Blas," likewise a Spanish piece.

"Ruy Blas" is cast as follows for the Gaîté in the autumn: Ruy Blas, M. Berton; the Queen, Mlle. Felix; Don Caesar de Bazan, Meline.

The Prince Imperial takes long rides on horseback now that he is at Fontainebleau. Some few days ago, accompanied by M. Bachon, he rode to the Bridge of Valerni, ascended the Seine as far as Monterau, and then stopped at the Castle of By, where Rosa Bonheur lives, and two hours did the Prince spend with that gifted artist. It is well known that the Empress is very partial to Rosa Bonheur, whose talent is alike an honour to her sex and to her country. It was at By that she was decorated some years ago by the fair hands of her sovereign.

The Emperor is at Plombières installed in the Hôtel Napoleon. The large room on the ground floor remains for the accommodation of the bathers, who are accustomed to assemble in it to play, converse, and perform musical pieces. For the service of the imperial visitor only one small room on this floor is reserved for receptions. On the storey next above are the dining-room, the salon of the officers in attendance, the private apartments of the Emperor, his bedroom, that of his private secretary, and other chambers, all newly fitted up. The Emperor walks out every morning in the park, and has already visited the various parts of the town and the church. Generals Lepic and Deville receive by turns for his Majesty, and grant audiences in his name. There is music at the hotel every evening before dinner, when his Majesty rarely fails to open the windows of his salon to listen. The King of the Belgians is expected daily on a visit.

Spa is brilliant at the present time. Several princes belonging to the Orleans family are there, besides many of the French and Belgian nobility. Victor Hugo is expected within the next few days, his eldest son, M. Charles Hugo, with his youthful wife, having been at Spa for some time.

The toilettes are exceedingly gay and varied at Spa. There is great originality about them, on account of the prevailing mixture of black with colour. The black is sometimes *China crêpe*, sometimes *grenadine*, sometimes *guipure*. I also remark a great many grey toilettes destined doubtless to brave the dust, of which there is any quantity.

With the grey toilettes either grey kid boots are worn, fastened with mother-of-pearl buttons, or fancy black and white poplin ones. Brown holland boots are to be seen, but not so generally as last year; the fact is, they so soon soil, which is a great disadvantage.

I will describe some of the Spa toilettes, and first the costume worn by the Princesses T—. A Metternich green silk skirt, bordered with two flounces of narrow black guipure, and looped up at the sides. At the back, and falling like scarf ends, there were two pans of black grenadine, pointed at the ends and edged with guipure. Plain high black bodice over a low green silk one, and a sash with short narrow ends cut from the piece. A *Letorière* cravate of Alençon lace negligently tied, and in the centre a cluster of emeralds in the form of a spade on playing cards; earrings to match. White straw toquet, with a black lace *ruche* round the crown, a green velvet bow in the centre, and a green feather at the side. Double lappets of black lace passing over the crown of the toquet, falling on one side, and fastened, one at one side and the other at the contrary side of the head, by a green velvet bow.

Another black costume worn at Spa consisted of a light coral-coloured silk petticoat, with five flounces, a Watteau of black *China crêpe*, fastened down the front with large coral buttons, and edged with fringe, imitating rough coral. Narrow waistbands, fastened at the side, terminating likewise with a coral fringe; on the sleeves and round the throat a similar trimming. Black lace toquet, with black *algrette*, and at the foot of the *algrette* a branch of coral.

Plain woollen materials are to be worn for short costumes at the seaside during the forthcoming autumn. Woollen stuffs are preferred before poplins, which are apt to shrink and spoil by the sea.—*The Queen.*

THE 55s. HAND-SEWING MACHINE (American manufacture), will hem, fell, bind, tuck, run, quilt, braid, embroider, and do every kind of family sewing. Every Machine guaranteed. See patterns of work and testimonials, post free.—J. L. WEIR, 2, Carlisle-st., Soho-sq., W. (not Charles-st.). Agents wanted.



## AGGRAVATION OF RAILWAY FARES.

THE directors of our southern metropolitan railways have lost no time in carrying out their reiterated threats. No sooner is parliament out of the way than they begin to turn the screw upon the public, and to turn it with a will. On the Brighton and the Chatham and Dover lines the fares were raised on Saturday, the rate of advance in some cases being as high as 100 per cent. On the former railway, for a ticket which not very long since might be obtained for a shilling one and eightpence is now required; and on the latter a shilling is charged for what a week ago was a six-penny fare. Complaint is useless; we have found our masters, or rather we have made them. We are in the hands of irresponsible monopolists, who have been living very fast lately, and must have money. It is only those who hold the public completely at their mercy who can thus repair the effects of extravagance at the cost of others. If a great landowner is foolish, and finds that £50,000 a year is of no use to him, he cannot double the rents of his tenants; he must abide the consequences of his folly. There is probably no other country in the world where the public interests could be so manipulated as they have been in this case. And there is no present remedy. The recourse to omnibuses, which one of our correspondents recommends, would but very partially meet the case. Those who have once enjoyed the convenience of a railway will not go back to the slow-moving and closely-packed omnibus. It is much more likely that first-class passengers will ride in second, and second-class passengers in third-class carriages; and in this way perhaps the companies may learn in time that doubling fares is not precisely equivalent to doubling revenue. In the meanwhile the most numerous class of passengers, those who have no inferior

## STRIKES IN THE TIME OF EDWARD III.

WHEN Edward III. was rebuilding Westminster Palace, so many workmen and labourers withdrew from his works that he issued a proclamation that no one was to employ them under penalty of being sent to the Tower; but no difficulty with the men is recorded to have taken place here. This smooth-sailing was, perhaps, due to the observance of certain articles drawn up by the trade, which we are about to notice. From Mr. Riley's documents it appears that about three years after the "strike" at Westminster the corporation took the masons in hand. Solid, hard-handed, slow-thinking men they were, not particular about such trifles as the way their names were spelt, or whether they had any surnames at all; though not clumsy, very precise over the way they did their work, and determined that no one should do it in any other fashion. The mason hewers set themselves against the light masons and setters, and their disputes seem to have been very frequent and tiresome when the mayor undertook to investigate their case. He attributed their dissensions to the fact that their trade was not regulated "by the government of folks of their trade," and agreed to receive twelve of their representatives, who should draw up a code of articles by which, for the future, it should be ordered and ruled. Six masons on behalf of the hewers and six on behalf of the light masons and setters attended this conference. The regulations, which were drawn up in Norman-French, were briefly these:—Every man might work in any branch of the trade, if skilful at it; "good folks" were to be chosen and sworn to see that no mason undertook work that he was not able to do, under penalty of fine and expulsion. No one was to take work in gross (wholesale or by contract) if he had not

## THE FRANCO-AMERICAN TELEGRAPH.

THE Minister of the Interior (France) publishes in the *France* a note in answer to a letter of Messrs. Blackmore and Delessert of the 1st instant, published in the same paper. This note, after stating that the allegations contained in the letter referred to have already been refuted in a recent communiqué to the journal, *Le Temps* adds:—"Messrs. Delessert and Blackmore have obtained no concession or promise from the Minister of the Interior. They possessed on the 17th of June the simple draft of a convention of which they have just now taken cognisance."

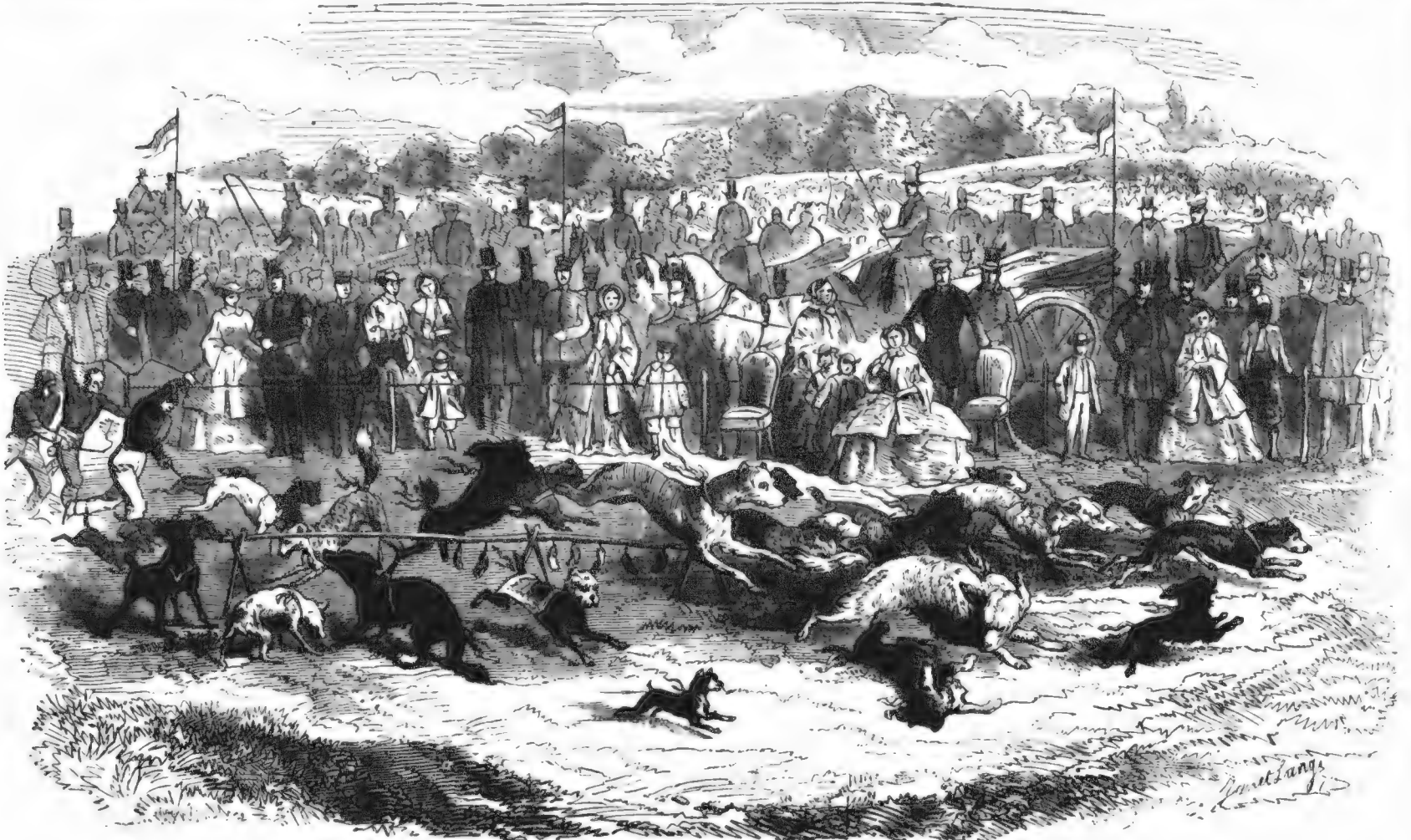
"The draft is neither signed nor approved, and could therefore confer no rights upon them."

"Messrs. Delessert and Blackmore had so completely comprehended this position, that two successive adjudications to which they were summoned took place on the 29th of June and the 6th July without any protest being made on their behalf."

"The allegations of Messrs. Delessert and Blackmore rest upon no legal title. Baron Erlanger and Mr. Reuter are the sole concessionaires of the Transatlantic cable which is to unite France and America."

## FRENCH PRESS—"THE LANTERNE."

The chief topic of conversation in Paris during the last two days has been an extraordinary judgment of the Tribunal of the Correctional Police. A nameless little print, started apparently with the view of attacking the *Lanterne*, turned its attention to the *Figaro*, and published the most atrocious libels on some of its most prominent writers. M. Albert Wolff was specially made a target for attacks of so foul and filthy a character that they can-



DOG-RACING IN FRANCE.

class of carriage with lower fares to fall back upon, are wholly without the means of mitigating the severity of the imposition.

## DOG-RACING IN FRANCE.

SINCE the introduction of horse-racing in France, the sport of dog-racing is gradually going out, still in some departments it is kept up with spirit, and in it the female portion of the community take an especial interest. At the goal or winning post, as will be seen in our illustration, a rope is stretched across the course. On this are hung dainty pieces of meat to tempt the appetite of the dogs. They are allowed to have a "sniff" at these at first, and are then taken to the starting-point, and let loose. Our engraving shows them coming-in." There are all kinds of prizes for the first ones.

**THE FIRE AT NEWCASTLE.**—The great fire which occurred on Sunday morning at the chemical works at Newcastle has deprived upwards of five hundred persons of employment, and has led to a very serious loss of property, estimated at upwards of £100,000. The conflagration was first observed at ten o'clock in the morning. All efforts made to restrain it proved perfectly fruitless, although the assistance of two steam fire-engines was obtained. Several policemen, who made a daring attempt to cut the roof so as to prevent the progress of the flames, were seriously injured by the fall of a portion of the slates, and by the fumes of sulphuric acid. The fire is believed to have been spontaneous. It was principally confined to that part of the building in which the manufacture of sulphuric acid was carried on. Between two and three million pounds of the acid have been destroyed, or have flowed into the Tyne, killing the fish and polluting the water for miles round.

**THE CARMEN AND THEIR GRIEVANCE.**—The Amalgamated Hackney Carriage Proprietors' Association have addressed the following letter to the railway companies, with a view to the amicable settlement of the "privilege" question:—"Sir,—I am instructed by the committee of the above association to inform you that a meeting of all the members of the trade will shortly take place, and their decision solicited for the abolition of the railway privilege system. Unless the railway companies will suggest some means for the furtherance of that object there will be no alternative for us but to adopt measures which will necessarily involve great public inconvenience, and which we should much regret. Trusting you will see that we are only asking for that which is just for the trade, beneficial to the companies, and a boon to the public, and that you will take the matter at once into your consideration, I remain, &c., J. S. Crocker, secretary."

ability to complete it in a proper manner. He who did undertake such work in gross was to take with him to the employer six or four ancient men of the trade to testify that he was able to perform it, and take upon themselves the responsibility of finishing it if he should prove unable to do so. No one was to set an apprentice or journeyman to work, except in the presence of his master, before he was perfectly instructed. No one was to take an apprentice for less than seven years. The masters that were chosen to superintend the trade were to oversee that those who worked by the day took for their hire what their work was worth, and asked no outrageous pay. If any objected to be ruled by these persons, his name was to be reported to the mayor, who, with the consent of the aldermen and sheriffs, would imprison or otherwise punish him, "that no other rebels may take example by him, to be ruled by the good folks of their trade;" and, finally, no one was to take the apprentice or journeyman of another, to his prejudice or damage, until the expiration of their term, under penalty of half a mark for each conviction.—*Builder*.

**MURDER AT BRISTOL.**—A murder has been committed at Wells. Early on Monday morning a navvy, named Bisgrove, was found in a field kneeling beside the dead body of a companion named Cornish, who had been killed by blows on the head. Bisgrove said he went into the field to sleep by the side of Cornish, and that while there a tall navvy came with a large stone and dropped it on Cornish's head, smashing his skull and killing him. A stone covered with blood and hair was found in an adjoining stream. The men were engaged in making the Cheddar Valley Railway. Three others have been apprehended—a navvy named Miller, who had fought with deceased; and a man named Sweet, and a prostitute, who quarrelled with deceased on Sunday night near the scene of the murder.

**RAILWAY COLLISION AT LIVERPOOL.**—An alarming accident occurred at Lime-street Station at half-past eight o'clock on Saturday evening, whereby ten passengers were more or less seriously injured. The 2.45 p.m. express train from London was allowed to come down the tunnel from Edgill without a man upon the break-van, and consequently, despite the efforts of the guard, it ran into some vans and trucks which were standing on the line at an arrival platform. The collision assumed the form of a succession of concussions which gradually stopped the train, otherwise the accident must have been of the most appalling description. As a matter of course, when the train was rushing down the tunnel with frightful velocity the passengers were greatly excited and alarmed.

not be transcribed literally. Suffice it to say, that after being described as a thief, a swindler, a shallow knave, he was deliberately accused, in terms the grossness of which it is utterly impossible to convey an idea, of playing the part of Sir Pandarus of Troy! M. Wolff prosecuted these ruffianly slanderers before the Correctional Police Court, and the Court only sentenced them to one franc fine and one franc damages. This is the same jurisdiction which sentenced the other day the *Electeur* to 10,000 francs fine for stating that the Government turned all its functionaries into electioneering agents. It is not to the credit of the French press that not a single paper, save the *Opinion Nationale*, should have expressed on that judgment the opinion which it seems to challenge, and which the public have not been slow to give.

## LOVE IN A LANE.

THIS pleasing fine-art engraving is from an admirable picture by Mr. D. H. Friston, and attracted great attention, when first exhibited at the Royal Academy. The picture tells its own story so truthfully that a description of it is unnecessary.

## A RAILWAY AND RAILWAY TRAIN ON FIRE.

THE whole district of Ryedale was on Thursday morning over-spread with an unmistakable odour of burning peat brought down from the moors by the strong north wind. On inquiry it turned out that an early North-Eastern goods train from Malton to Whitby had in it three waggons of "pickled" sleepers, which are highly inflammable. About Fen bog, on the Saltergate moors, two of these loads were found to be on fire. They burnt violently until the whole cargo and the waggons had disappeared. The fire was communicated to the sleepers of the railway, the heat of the whole so twisting the rails that the traffic was stopped until the damaged portion of the line could be relaid. From the railway the fire spread to the adjoining moor, the ling and turf of which were as dry as possible. It spread rapidly and burnt all day, but on Thursday night it was thought its progress was arrested. On Friday morning it was reported that the fire had run up the side of a glen to the hill top, but that the men had succeeded in getting the flame out. The thick peaty turf on the ground is all on fire, and nothing but heavy rain can put it out. Men are watching to suppress any outbreak of flame. The cause of the fire seems a mystery, as when the train passed a set of repairs 200 yards back all was right. By train at 2.30 it was reported the fire was spreading to the moors, in spite of the efforts of a great number of men, who were doing their utmost to thrash out the fire with branches of trees.



## THE LODGER FRANCHISE.

The committee for promoting the return of the Hon. R. W. Grosvenor and Mr. Mill have issued the following instructions with respect to the lodger franchise:—"By the new Reform Act every man in a city or borough who, for the twelve months previous to the 31st of July, has occupied, as sole tenant, the same lodgings which, if unfurnished, would let at a rent of at least £10 a year (or 4s. per week), is entitled to claim to be placed on the list of voters. Joint occupiers are not qualified by the act, which recognises only a claimant who, by himself or his family separately, occupies the lodgings. It is desirable that the claimant's signature to the claim should be witnessed, if possible, by the person so whom he ordinarily pays his rent. The claim must be delivered to the overseers of the parish in which the lodgings are situated, or to one of them, not earlier than the 1st, nor later than the 25th, of August. A separate list of the lodger claims will be published by the overseers not later than the 1st of September. Should the claim not appear on the published list, then its delivery must be proved before the revising barrister. It is therefore advisable to retain an exact copy of the claim, and to note upon such copy the date and other particulars of the delivery of the original. It is safer not to send claims to the overseers through the post. A claim may be objected to at the revision court, though no notice of objection has been given either to claimants or overseers. The claimant, or some other person authorised by him, must therefore attend the court and be prepared to prove the facts regarding the qualification. In proving the annual value of the lodgings, the rent actually paid will be the first consideration. The claimant should bring with him his rent-book or receipt for

## THE PLEASURES OF THE PRUSSIAN SERVICE.

SEVERAL "officers of inspection" lived in the building and superintended our practical and theoretical training. Here I was again unlucky in the chance that brought me under the orders of a regular Tartar. A number of invalid old soldiers attended to the cleaning of our rooms and accoutrements, and, from sheer weakness and imbecility, they were often unable to satisfy the many demands made upon their services. Certain hours in the evening being set aside for study, it was usual for the officers of inspection to visit us then, and, according to the rules of the service, the senior ensign had to make a formal report of the rank and number of the inhabitants of his room. On one occasion Captain H. entered our study, and I, being the senior ensign, jumped up and reported, "Room No. x is inhabited by Ensigns R. and S. of the 25th, and Ensign T. of the 9th regiments."—"Your lamp is in a filthy state," our Tartar remarked.—"At your orders, Captain!" I replied. "Invalid N. is unwell, and I did not wish to call him up again."—The captain frowned and asked, "Why did you not clean the lamp yourself?"—"As we were not expected to do any menial work, I replied, 'I was not aware that such a task devolved on me; besides, I am quite ignorant of the process of lamp cleaning.'—"You will report yourself in half an hour at my quarters, and inform me how a lamp is cleaned." And Tartar walked off, rattling his regulation sword behind him. I foamed with anger, but there was no help for me, report myself I must. I donned my uniform and helmet, and at the appointed time knocked at the captain's door. I entered, marched up to him, and reported, "At your orders, captain, a dirty lamp is best cleaned with an old woollen stocking." The

## AN UNEXPECTED RECEPTION.

A VENERABLE lady, an old resident of New York, who bears an honourable name, and who, while the war lasted, did as much as any soldier, and far more than many a younger woman, to aid the Government, keep the hospitals supplied with lint and delicacies for the sick, and hold the wealthy circle in which she lived up to the constant duty of spending their money freely for patriotic purposes—this noble old lady, with such a social record to crown her eighty years of well-spent life, was actually intruded upon by a gang of democrats calling themselves gentlemen, when the following conversation took place:—The Lady: "Well, gentlemen, to what am I indebted for this unexpected visit?"—First Gent.: "Are you not Mrs. —?"—The Lady: "Certainly I am." Second Gent.: "And the mother of Mr. —, who holds such and such an office in Washington?"—The Lady: "Yes, Mr. — is my son."—Third Gent.: "Then I suppose, Madam, you will be glad to accommodate as many of the delegates to the democratic convention as your house has room for?"—The Lady: "I assure you, sir, you are much mistaken. No persons of that character are ever welcome in my house—(Rising and ringing the bell; to the servant who enters)—Martha, open the door for these persons. Gentlemen, you will be good enough to relieve me from this very unwelcome intrusion. I am at a loss to understand what I have done to give an impression that I could willingly harbour a traitor in my house." Exit roughs-in-broadcloth, looking very sheepish, and contemptuously squirting tobacco-juice over the steps to right and left as they go.—*New York Tribune.*



LOVE IN A LANE.

rent. The payment of 4s. per week and upwards will in the case of lodgings taken unfurnished be proof that they are of the required value, unless it can be shown that the rent is excessive. If the lodgings are taken furnished, the claimant must show that they would be worth at least 4s. per week if unfurnished. The amount that is left after deducting from the rent actually paid a reasonable charge for the use of the furniture will be the chief evidence on this point. It is also desirable that the claimant should be prepared to show what is the usual rent of similar lodgings in the neighbourhood let unfurnished. On this point claimants attending the court can help one another. Occasional absence during the twelve months will not disqualify, provided no other person occupies in the interval as tenant, and provided the rent continues to be paid by the claimant.—H. H. SEYMOUR, J. W. PROBYN, W. T. MALLESON, hon. secs. to the Grosvenor and Mill Committee, 145, New Bond-street."

**NARROW ESCAPE OF A FEMALE GYMNAST.**—During the past week an artiste, styling herself the "Female Blondin," has walked each evening across a rope stretched about thirty feet above the grounds of the Royal Music Hall, Southport. On Friday evening, however, she had a very narrow escape. She had crossed the rope, and was returning, when, owing to a flaw in one of the pulley blocks, it slipped, and suddenly dropped some eight or ten inches. With great presence of mind the performer let go her balancing pole and caught the rope with her hands. Here she swung in mid-air, until luckily she managed to throw one foot over a cord tied to the rope for the purpose of steadying it, and was after some minutes' delay rescued from her perilous position.

captain got into a great rage, put me under arrest, and reported me for impertinence to the colonel in command, who had no option but to punish me by confining me to my quarters for a week. At the same time he rebuked the captain, and reminded him "that his youngers ought to be treated as gentlemen." I must here explain that a Prussian ensign is a kind of hybrid between a commissioned and a non-commissioned officer, messing with the former, but ranking with the latter.—*Cornhill Magazine.*

**THE HEAT IN NEW YORK.**—The heat in New York on the 13th is stated to have been the most intense that had been felt there for 14 years. Large numbers of people fell down in the streets insensible from the heat, two of whom died. The weather on the 14th showed a marked improvement, but notwithstanding this fact no less than 44 fatal cases of sunstroke occurred in New York and two in Brooklyn, while numerous others were reported elsewhere. The thermometer at its maximum height indicated 95 degrees; in Baltimore, on the same day, the thermometer stood at 103; in Toronto, 100; and in Montreal, 98.

**THE HEAT.**—The heat during the month of July was frequently so intense that the thermometer in shade ranged from 75 to 88 degrees, while exposed to the sun's rays the temperature varied from 120 to 130 degrees. There were 25 days on which no rain fell, and it has been pointed out as a curious and suggestive fact, that while this country and America have suffered in common from the heat, the decks of the vessels passing over the Atlantic have been deluged by continuous rainfalls. The hottest day in July was on the 22nd, when the mean temperature, including the minimum of the night, exceeded 80 degrees.

**THREATENING NOTICES TO LONDON FIRMS.**—We have received letters from Mr. George Potter, the president, and Mr. Robert Hartwell, the secretary of the London Working Men's Association, expressive of regret that the authors of the letters, signed "General Secret Committee," to the heads of various firms threatening them in case they do not adopt certain modes of work in their establishments, have not been discovered. Mr. Potter considers the letters to have emanated from persons desirous of throwing obloquy upon trades unions; and Mr. Hartwell takes it upon himself to assure employers who have received such notices that they have no cause for alarm, and that they may feel quite sure that no "secret committee" of trades unionists exists in London for any purpose whatever.

**THE ALLEGED MURDER OF A WOMAN BY HER SON.**—A shocking murder has been committed at Kimbolton, the victim being an old woman, and the supposed murderer her son. It appears that the deceased was a widow named Leaton, and was 83 years of age. The murder was committed either late on Wednesday night or early on Thursday morning. A surgical examination of the body showed that great violence had been used in the slaying of the poor old creature. The affair has caused great excitement in this usually quiet locality. The son of deceased remains in custody, pending a full investigation. He is said to be deranged.

**THE SPANISH EXILES.**—The journals of the Canary Islands announce the arrival there of the exiled Spanish generals. On the 16th ult. the war steamer Vulcano put on shore the Duke de la Torre, who is to proceed to the village of Orotava; Generals Dulce and Don Francisco Terrano Bedoya, at Palma; and Don Caballero de Roda, on the island of Lanzarote.



## LAW AND POLICE.

**CHARGES AGAINST A LIMITED COMPANY.**—Three summonses having been issued against the Patent Bread Machinery Company (Limited), for infringements of the Companies' Act, and having been made returnable on Saturday.—Mr. Montagu Williams, instructed by Mr. J. P. Ponsonby, jun., solicitor, of Raymond-buildings, attended for the prosecution, but the defendants did not appear. The secretary, however, was in attendance, and said that he had communicated with the chairman and several of the directors, who, he had no doubt, would appear on a future day if the magistrates would grant an adjournment.—Mr. Montagu Williams said the summonses had been issued at the instance of a Mr. Simpson, but he was prepared to state frankly that the real mover in the prosecution was Mr. Stevens, the proprietor of a patent for bread machinery, which he had sold to the company, receiving payment as usual in such cases, partly in shares. He complained of the manner in which the business had been conducted, for which he had suffered ruinous loss. The specific charges against the directors were—first, neglecting to fix the name of the company outside the office in the Strand; second, neglecting to forward a list of the shareholders comprising the company to the Registrar of Joint-stock Companies; and third, neglecting to have a registered office to which communications and notices could be sent. He urged that the directors ought to have been in attendance, and that the only object was to gain time; and he asked the magistrate to grant warrants for the apprehension of the chairman and certain directors. Mr. Stevens had been reduced to poverty in consequence of the mismanagement of the company, and could not afford to carry on a protracted proceeding. He had been able to pay counsel's fees on this occasion, but he was by no means sure that he should be able to do so again.—Mr. Flowers said the defendants ought to pay the costs of the day, as the adjournment was for their convenience.—Mr. Black was unable to make any undertaking to that effect. The summonses were ultimately adjourned, it being understood that the question of costs should be reserved for future consideration.—Sir Thomas Henry has received and handed over to Sergeant Chowne and Constable Chamberlain, of the E division, a sum of £66s., received from Mr. Whaley, of Lamb's Conduit-street, who had collected it for their benefit among his friends, as a recognition of the courage displayed by them in arresting the Fenian Clancy, who had fired three shots at them with a revolver.—Sir Thomas Henry observed that he had great pleasure in handing the officers this further contribution. The Officers desired to express their thanks to all who had so liberally subscribed for their benefit, and stated that the various sums they had thus received amounted in all to £68.

**CASE OF ELOPEMENT AND ROBBERY.**—Charles Prince, master butcher, Walmer-terrace, Notting-hill, charged with stealing a quantity of property belonging to Henry Allen, horse and cattle dealer, Blechynden Mews, Notting-hill, and Catherine Allen, wife of the prosecutor, charged with uttering a forged order for the payment of £902 9s. 2d. with intent to defraud the London and Westminster Bank, were brought before Mr. Knox for final examination. Mr. Poland, instructed by Mr. Roy, appeared on the part of the London and Westminster Bank, and Mr. Froggatt appeared for the defence. The evidence previously taken was then read over. It was to the effect that the prisoners were taken at Queenstown on board the City of Cork steamer. They were preparing to go to America, occupying the same cabin as man and wife, under the name of Prince. In their possession was a quantity of property owned by the prosecutor, and in the possession of the female prisoner the sum of £695 in bank-notes, part of the money obtained from the London and Westminster Bank on a deposit note of the prosecutor. Mr. Devalle, manager of the branch of the London and Westminster Bank, deposed that the prosecutor had deposited with the bank £900, receiving the usual form. The female prisoner had been at the bank with the prosecutor when he came upon business, and this disarmed suspicion. She presented the deposit note signed and receipted, and the amount was paid over to her. The prosecutor, on being shown the receipt, sworn that the receipt was not in his handwriting. An Expert, on comparing the signature to the receipt with the signature of the prosecutor in the bank books, and looking at the general character of the writing, pronounced the signature a forgery.

**THE GREAT PLATE ROBBERY AT THE PULTENEY HOTEL, ALBEMARLE-STREET.**—CAPTURE OF THE THIEF.—Alfred Bales, a porter, was placed at the bar before Mr. Alderman Finnis, charged with stealing about £500 worth of silver plate from the Pulteney Hotel, Albemarle-street, and Elizabeth Brown, Emily Henfry, her daughter, and George Henfry, the husband of Emily Henfry, were placed at the bar on remand charged with receiving a portion of the said property, well knowing it to have been stolen.—On the last occasion it appeared that Mrs. Brown was attempting to dispose of a portion of a silver spoon at the shop of Mr. Bryer of Barbican, when she was given into custody, for not being able to account for the possession of it. She then said she got it from her daughter, and on Outram, an officer, going to her lodging at 13, Mack's-place, Graystone-place, Fetter-lane, he found several articles which were identified as part of the stolen property.—Mrs. Henfry said she got the articles found in her mother's possession from the prisoner Bales. They were all taken into custody and remanded, and in the interim Bales was apprehended.—Robert Outram, 175, said: From information he received he went to Leith, and saw the prisoner Bales at a coffee-house in Landport-street. He asked him if his name was Taylor (having received information that he was going by the name), and he replied that it was. He then said, "Or is your name Alfred Bales," and he said "Yes." He then told him he was a police-officer from the City of London, and should take him into custody for stealing a quantity of plate from his late employer at the Pulteney Hotel, Piccadilly. The prisoner said, "Yes, I am guilty; it is a bad job, I am very sorry, I suppose I shall get ten years this time." He searched him, and found on him 47 shillings. They then went to the prisoner's lodgings in Leith-walk, and there found a black bag under the bed, where the prisoner told him he would find it. He opened it with a key which he took from the prisoner, and found in it a gold thimble, which had been identified. He then brought the prisoner to London.—E. Carr said the prisoner Bales was in the employ of Mrs. Alice Lewis, the proprietress of the Pulteney Hotel, from the 4th of May to the 23rd of July, when he absconded. He left about twenty minutes past five o'clock in the evening, and the plate was missed about six o'clock. Among the articles taken was a lady's companion, containing a gold thimble, and that produced was the thimble.—Outram asked for a remand, and it was at once granted.

**SMITH V. CLAPHAM.**—BREACH OF PROMISE.—This case, which was tried at the last York assizes, ended on that occasion in a verdict for the plaintiff; but a rule for a new trial having been obtained on the ground of the verdict being against the weight of evidence, the case was tried again.—The jury found a verdict for the plaintiff again—damages, £150. The damages on the former trial were £100.

**THE MURPHY RIOTS AT ASHTON.**—John Flynn, 23, Daniel Flanagan, 32, Patrick Hanley, 49, Edward Kelley, 22, Patrick Carny, 27, Robert Duff, 22, William Cusick, 58, Thomas Harley, 19, Lawrence Delaney, 19, James McDermott, 18, Patrick Quinn, 16, and James Flannery, 65, have been tried for riot and assault at Ashton-under-Lyne on the 10th May.—The jury were absent for some time, and on returning found all the prisoners guilty, with the exception of Littlewood and Flint.—Sentence was deferred.

## A STRANGE CASE.

HARE V. HARE.

A STRANGE case has been heard at Guildford. It was an action of slander brought by Mr. Francis George Hare, against his brother, Augustus Hare, and from the position of the parties and the circumstances connected with the case the proceedings created a great deal of interest.

Mr. Serjeant Parry, who led the plaintiff's case, said the plaintiff was the son of Mr. Hare, a barrister, who was the brother of Archdeacon Hare, and who died in 1841, leaving a large fortune, which was divided amongst his family. The plaintiff was formerly in the army, he was an officer in the Guards, and when he came of age he came into possession of a considerable property. He passed a good deal of his time in enjoying the gaieties of life both here and on the Continent, but although he, no doubt, had wasted a good deal of his property in these pursuits he believed that not the slightest insinuation could be made against his honour or character in any respect. The mother and the sister of the plaintiff lived a good deal abroad, and they eventually became converted to the Roman Catholic religion, and the plaintiff subsequently did the same; but, although he mentioned this fact, he might state that no question of a theological or religious character was involved in the inquiry. The learned serjeant went on to state that the sister of the plaintiff and the defendant, the lady whom he had mentioned as having become a convert to the Roman Catholic religion, died in May last, and this occurrence appeared to have led to the publication of the letter that was the subject of the present action. This lady had been originally possessed of considerable fortune, somewhere about £15,000, but it seemed that she had, as many other ladies, he believed, had done, engaged in speculations on the Stock Exchange, in which she had been unsuccessful, and at the time of her death it turned out that she was in possession of much less property than was anticipated by her family. Within a few hours of her death this lady made her will, by which she bequeathed a portion of her property to the plaintiff, and another portion to the defendant and other members of the family. After her death, and down to the time of the funeral, the plaintiff and the defendant appeared to be perfectly satisfied with what had taken place, and it was not until after the funeral that something was said by the defendant relative to a sum of £1,000 that had been borrowed by the plaintiff of another member of the family and which, it was represented, had not been satisfactorily accounted for, and the plaintiff at the time stated that he had borrowed the money for his sister, and that he had paid it in to her account at Coutts's. The libel complained of was written by the defendant on the 13th of June following the death of his sister, which took place in May. It was addressed to Mrs. Montgomery, a lady of high position, and related to Lord Leonfield and the Earl of Mayo, which gave it a more serious significance.

The learned Serjeant here read the letter, which for obvious reasons should not be given in full. It will be sufficient to state that it represented that there were rumours about as to what had occurred at the death of his sister and to the disposition of her property, and that for some time before her death his sister would not see the plaintiff, and that she shrieked when his name was mentioned. The letter also represented that the sudden death of his sister ought to be cleared up, and that the "Superior of Precious Blood" (this, it was afterwards explained, referred to the lady superior of a convent of nuns who had been with the deceased previous to her death) had had a message of a fearful character entrusted to her by the deceased lady, to be delivered to the plaintiff, and that the state of his health had alone been the reason why this message had not been delivered to him.

Mr. Serjeant Parry then went on to state that he should show by the evidence of numerous witnesses who were in attendance that there was not the slightest foundation for any of the insinuations contained in the letter, and that so far from the sister of the plaintiff desiring not to see him, or shrieking with terror whenever his name was mentioned, they were, on the contrary, on the most friendly terms, and she wrote him an affectionate letter, which he should put in evidence, on the Saturday previous to her death. Only one witness had been called when Mr. Hawkins rose, and said he had conferred with the defendant, and was now in a condition to offer to withdraw all the imputations upon the character of the plaintiff that were contained in the letter, and to state that the defendant was ready to apologise for having written it.

A verdict for 40s. damages was then taken for the plaintiff.

## THE OUTRAGES IN THE SOUTH SEA ISLANDS.

SOME further correspondence was published on Saturday morning relating to the importation of South-Sea Islanders into Queensland. It may be remembered that a while ago serious outrages were committed by the natives upon vessels visiting the islands, and in some cases murders took place, the avowed object being revenge for the abduction to, or at least forcible retention in, Queensland of certain male natives, who it was alleged, had been decoyed there for temporary service only. Sir George Brown directed that inquiries should be made into the causes of the grievance, and Commander Bingham, of Her Majesty's ship Virago, was deputed to perform this duty. In a despatch received by the Duke of Buckingham on the 22nd ult., from the officer administering the government of Queensland, the result of the inquiry is given. Mr. M. C. O'Connor says, in reference to the treatment and mode of engaging those of the islanders who were employed on board vessels engaged in Beche-de-Mer fishing in Torres Straits and the neighbourhood of Cape York, that it is satisfactory to find that Captain Bingham has been enabled, from personal observation, to come to the conclusion that none of these people were brought away from their homes against their will, or maltreated. He adds:—"I am enabled also to report that, on inquiry from the emigration agent in this colony (who is now, under the Polynesian Labourers' Act, charged with the supervision of these islanders in Queensland), I learn that the employment of these people continues to be very favourably thought of by those gentlemen who have engaged them; that the men themselves, on the establishment he has visited, are apparently industrious, contented, and happy; and that he has, up to the present time, had no complaint of ill-treatment of any kind."

**FATAL CASE OF PAROCHIAL NEGLECT.**—Mr. Humphreys, coroner, has held an inquest, in St. Luke's, relative to the death through want, of Henry Houseman, aged 50 years. Elizabeth Houseman, deceased's daughter, said her father was a porter, and, being out of work and suffering from heart-disease and cough, he applied for parish relief. Three months ago he got an order to pick oakum in the stone-yard, and he was paid 7d. a day and got a loaf of bread for the work which he did. There were six persons in the family. He died on Saturday. The jury returned a verdict "That deceased died from exhaustion, from poverty of diet and privation, and disease of the heart: that when the deceased's daughter applied at the workhouse for nourishment in accordance with the doctor's suggestion, it ought to have been immediately given, and that the parish doctor ought to have power to give orders for necessary nourishment in such cases."

**THE LAST OF THE ARABIAN EXPEDITION.**—The last of the troops recently serving in Abyssinia, a detachment of the 25th N.L.I., arrived in Bombay on the 1st ult. in the transport Queen. They left Zoolia on the 25th June. Previous to their departure two parties were sent out to search all the old deserted buildings and see that no one was left behind. Zoolia had begun on the morning before to present a very deserted appearance; and only a few Egyptian soldiers, who had come to take charge of the place, and some camp followers and sailors, were to be seen wandering about.

## THE MURDER OF A COMMERCIAL TRAVELLER IN SHROPSHIRE.

The trial of George Harris, charged with the wilful murder of Barret Zusman, at Strichley, on the 16th November, was resumed on Saturday morning.

Mr. Matthews, Q.C., and Mr. Bingley again appeared for the prosecution; and Dr. Kenealey, Q.C., and Mr. Young for the defence.

Upon his lordship taking his seat upon the bench, Mr. Matthews said, in consequence of something which had just come to his knowledge, he had an application to make to his lordship, but he thought that in the interest of the prisoner it should not be made in the presence of the jury, and he would ask his lordship to hear him in his private room.

After some conversation this course was agreed to, and the counsel on either side had a private interview with the learned judge, the nature of which did not transpire upon their return to court. The examination of the witnesses for the prosecution was then proceeded with.

Mr. John Mantle, chain manufacturer, Birmingham, said he was in the habit of supplying Mr. Cohen, Zusman's employer, with chains. The gold chain which the prisoner gave to Francis Ketley, on the 12th May as security for a loan of £2, and also the chain which he gave to Enoch Corbett, on the 5th May, in consideration of a loan of 7s., were placed in the hands of witness, who identified them as being of his manufacture. The chain given to Ketley, he was able to swear to from a peculiar fashion in the finishing, and had not been made more than eighteen months. The swivel attached to this chain was not of his manufacture, and had not been put on the chain by a jeweller. All the chains issued from his manufactory bore his initials "J.M.," with "9C," to indicate the quality of the gold. The chains produced did not bear these letters, but this he explained by the statement that the links of the chains upon which the number had been stamped had been removed. The swivel of the chain given by the prisoner to Corbett had not been replaced by another, and its broken condition had been noticed at the time by Corbett, Harris stating in reply to his question that when at Chester races the previous year, "a chap had smashed it."

Martha Garbett said that on the 30th November, the day after the body had been found, and before a post-mortem examination had been made, she saw the prisoner and spoke to him of the murder, repeating the belief, then popularly current, that the deceased had been killed with a blow from a bricklayer's hammer. To this Harris replied, "No, he was shot with a pistol getting over a stile. There was a sharpish tussle; but he had not much help in himself, when he was got hold of by the throat." On the day the prisoner's house was searched by the police the prisoner said to the witness, "They may search my house, but they'll find nothing there; I wish he had been in hell before he had come here to be murdered." The witness asked him what could be done with the property of which the murdered man had been robbed, and Harris said they would take it to the "hot pot" at Birmingham. The witness asked what that was. He replied, "It's a place with a glass before it. They come to the glass and say, 'Hot or cold?' If it is 'hot,' they give you what they like; if it is 'cold,' they come round, and the thing is valued, and you get the value of it."

Paul Cetti proved the sale of a revolver (produced) to Harris at same date, between the 23rd October and the 13th of November. On examining the pistol on Friday he found that the lifting pin was out of its place. That was the only thing which rendered the pistol unserviceable. He never knew the lifting pin of a pistol to get out of its place accidentally.

Mr. Ebrall, gunmaker, Shrewsbury, gave similar evidence as to the cause of disorder in the pistol. He had been acquainted with revolvers ever since they were introduced, and he had never known a case in which the lifting pin had been accidentally displaced. An ordinary unskilled person could remove it, the only tool required being a screwdriver.

In order to understand the bearing of this evidence it is necessary to state that in the evidence of Police-constable Purchase, given on Friday, he mentioned that after the pistol had been found in the prisoner's house he (the prisoner) had twice offered to give it him, and the second time he accepted the present, but that on attempting to discharge it he found that it "would not go off."

Dr. Orange, schoolmaster, Wellington, was then sworn, and proceeded to relate a conversation which he had had with the prisoner in the goal on Wednesday week. The prisoner had formerly been a pupil at the witness's school, and the visit was made in accordance with the prisoner's request. In the course of a long conversation, the prisoner repeatedly asserted that he was "as innocent as a child," and the witness, expressing his belief in this statement, earnestly entreated him to tell who had committed the murder, and not to carry a murderer's secret about with him. The prisoner did not attempt to deny that he knew the murderer, but he said he dodged him about, and had sworn to "pull out his heart," and to "split his skull" if he told, and he dare not tell. In reply to the witness's question as to how he knew the murderer, the prisoner said that he had offered to sell him a watch, which he immediately recognised as being of the manufacture of Zusman's employer. This concluded the case for the prosecution. At the time of our going to press the jury had not given their verdict.

**SUSPECTED MURDER AT KIMBOLTON.**—An inquest has just been commenced before the Kimbolton coroner, touching the death of a widow woman named Leeton, aged 83 years. The body was found in bed on the morning of the 30th ult., with marks that left little doubt of death from violence. Her son was immediately suspected. He has for years borne a bad character, and the farm labourers of the neighbourhood would scarcely work with him. His mother, with whom he lived, frequently had to call in the neighbours to protect her from his violence, and he had been recently heard to threaten to murder her. He was apprehended on the evening of the 30th on the charge.

**PRESIDENT JOHNSON.**—President Johnson has sent a message to Congress suggesting several amendments to the constitution of the United States. His principal propositions are, that the President and Vice-President shall each be chosen for the term of six years, and be ineligible for re-election; that their election shall be direct—thus dispensing with conventions for nomination and all the intermediate agencies of party organisation; that the senators shall be elected by the people; and that the judges, both of the supreme and inferior courts, shall hold office during the term of twelve years instead of for life. President Johnson says he has long entertained the views expressed in his message, and that time, observation, and experience having strengthened them, he submits them to Congress as an act of public duty. The propositions do not seem to have met with much favour. The *New York Times* says they are particularly ill-timed, as much more pressing matters are before Congress, and it thinks that they are easily traceable to "personal disappointment and pique, and to impressions derived from current controversies." The *Tribune* heads its comments, "Tinkering the Constitution," and says that Mr. Johnson's amendments are crude and bungling in their conception, and that though his meditations upon them may have been long, they could never have been broad or deep.

**THE BEARD IN MADRAS.**—A singular piece of military news reaches us from Madras. The Commander-in-chief has issued an order forbidding beards to be worn in the army! The *Madras Athenaeum* expresses the opinion that there must surely be matters of far greater weight than this calling for the Commander-in-Chief's attention, and it thinks that the British soldier in India might well be excused from undergoing the tortures of a native barber every morning.



THE CHARGE OF EMBEZZLING £4,000.

At the Mansion-house on Tuesday, Robert Cecil Ewin, aged forty-nine, residing in Mornington-crescent, Hampstead-road, was brought up on remand before the Lord Mayor, in custody of Detective-sergeant Haydon, on the charge of embezzling divers sums of money amounting to upwards of £4,000.

It will be remembered that the prisoner was appointed to act as London warehouseman to the prosecutors, Messrs. Stead, M'Alpine, and Co., calico printers, of Cammerdale, near Carlisle, in June, 1864, at a salary of £280 per annum, and that his duties were to receive orders from the customers of the firm, and forward them to the works at Cammerdale. In the ordinary course of business the goods so ordered would be forwarded to the warehouse in London, and the prisoner would then invoice and deliver them to the customers. It was likewise his duty to receive money on behalf of the firm, and to transmit monthly a complete copy of his cash book, and a statement of outstanding accounts. In consequence of a more than usual number of debts remaining unpaid, and in the absence of any explanation from the prisoner, Mr. Hodgson, the manager of the prosecutors' works, came to London on the 5th of December last, and saw Mr. Ewin, who told him that statements had been furnished to the customers, but that he had received no remittances. Mr. Hodgson then examined the books, and made out various accounts, the prisoner assisting him, and left them to be posted by the under warehouseman. When he returned he found they had not been posted, and they were then allowed to lie till the following day. Next morning he saw the prisoner in Cheap-side, and accused him of falsifying the books. The prisoner replied that they were falsified, and requested to speak to him in private. They accordingly proceeded to Kennan's Hotel, when the prisoner handed to him a letter, in which he stated that about two years ago, feeling the strong necessity for increasing his income, he was urged by several houses to purchase and consign various kinds of goods abroad for sale, and that he did so purchase and send out to Beyrout, Constantinople, Buenos Ayres, Melbourne, and Sydney about £5,000 worth of goods on the usual terms of credit. These shipments arriving when the monetary affairs of this and other countries had become disorganized, they could not be sold except at a heavy loss, and instructions were sent out to hold the goods back until a change of markets would yield a profit. In the meantime he was able to provide for payments becoming due by advances from consignees, but this source having become exhausted, and proceedings being taken against him in the Court of Bankruptcy, he made several payments from moneys passing through his hands, in the full assurance that he would be able to repay them in a month or two with funds from abroad; but eventually he discovered that he was a loser by these transactions to the amount of £3,500, and in looking for the means to repay the large deficiency due to the prosecutors he was obliged to rely upon his two sureties to pay upon their respective bond, and these with other sums and securities would enable him, he said, ultimately to repay the whole. The defalcations of the prisoner, who subsequently absconded, were ascertained to amount to about £4,500. From £15,000 to £20,000 worth of goods passed through the prisoner's hands yearly.

Some evidence having been given as to a payment made to the prisoner by one of the customers of the firm, the case was adjourned for another week.

SAD ACCIDENT AT CHATHAM GARRISON.

The rehearsal of the siege operations at Chatham garrison unhappily terminated with a fatal disaster on Monday. A body of engineers, under the command of Lieutenant his Royal Highness Prince Arthur, K.G., had prepared a framework for a bridge. The supports for the platform of the bridge were formed of three long poles lashed together by transverse pieces, two other poles being attached at the centre to descend into the ditch and support the platform. This framework was carried to the ditch by the men under the command of Prince Arthur, safely put into position, and then boards were laid across to form the roadway. Over this the prince passed with his men. Then large numbers of men pressed forward to enter the fortress, too eagerly, despite of officers urging them not to load the bridge too much. Unfortunately, as the men were crossing, they fixed their bayonets. While this rush of men was going on, the bridge broke, two of the three longitudinal poles snapped on the inner side of the ditch, and some twenty men were hurled a considerable depth into the ditch; and from their having their bayonets fixed, as well as from the depth which they fell, the results were most lamentable. Many wounds were inflicted by the bayonets, many of the men who fell being badly cut on the face and body. One poor fellow, a marine, was killed either instantly or he died shortly after. Seven or eight others were badly hurt in various ways, and had to be carried to hospital. The question arises, who gave the order to fix bayonets?

ACTION FOR SLANDER AGAINST A VOCALIST.

An action for slander was heard at Guildford, to which the defendants pleaded "Not Guilty," and a justification.

The parties in this case are well known in the musical world, the plaintiff, Herr Engell, being player of the harmonium at Her Majesty's Theatre, and the defendants, Puzzi and another, having some celebrity as vocalists, and instrumentalists. The action was nominally brought against Signor Puzzi and his wife, but the lady was the real defendant, the declaration alleging that she had uttered false and slanderous words of and concerning the plaintiff in his professional capacity, and he claimed special damages. As the case for the plaintiff broke down in the proof, it will be sufficient to state that it appeared that Herr Engell had recommended the daughter of Signor Puzzi

to Lady Twiss, to teach the piano, and that the young lady, for some reason or other, was dismissed very soon afterwards by Lady Twiss. Madame Puzzi seemed to have entertained the impression that this had taken place in consequence of something that had been said by the plaintiff disparaging to her daughter's character, and she was represented to have gone to several persons who were acquainted with the plaintiff, and stated that he was a liar, a coward, and a scoundrel, and this was the slander that was the ground of the present action.

The plaintiff was called, and he stated, upon his oath, that there was no foundation for the opinion that was entertained by the female defendant, and he denied having ever said anything that was prejudicial to the character of Mlle. Puzzi. Two other witnesses, to whom the alleged slander was represented to have been made, were also examined, but their evidence was very vague, and they were unable to state more than that the statements were made by Madame Puzzi about a year ago, but they could not name the precise time.

Mr. Montagu Chambers, at the close of the evidence, submitted to his lordship that the plaintiff had failed to establish any case that could be left to the jury.

Baron Martin said he was of the same opinion, and the plaintiff was consequently nonsuited.

A STRANGE CAREER.

An inquest held on Tuesday at the West London Union, touching the death of Thomas Edward Higgs, revealed the history of a strange life and sad death. He was a jeweller, thirty years old. He, like his father, was an Atheist, but four years ago became a Puseyite. According to one of the witnesses, he said once he had become so confused that he could hardly make out what was right, to which the witness replied, "You must work. Prayer will never find you eating and drinking." Mr. Wm. Groves, of Birmingham, said that the deceased, who was his brother-in-law, had been a very eccentric man for the last three years. He had lost a great deal of property. He lost a box containing a quantity of jewels. That excited him, and despondency set in, during which he wrote the following:—"I am in such a fearful position that I fear I shall do something desperate. If anything should happen to me will you see that my property is given to my mother? I have been mad these two years, and all the mistakes that have been made by me are due to insanity. Good bye." The deceased poisoned himself with prussic acid. It transpired in evidence that he had spent over £5,000 in a very short time, and had at one time kept his carriage. The jury returned a verdict of "Temporary insanity."

THE PHARMACOPŒIA.

AN extract from the second edition (page 198) of the translation of the Pharmacopœia of the Royal College of Physicians of London, by Dr. G. F. Collier, published by Longman and Co.,—"It is no small defect in this compilation (speaking of the 'Pharmacopœia') that we have no purgative mass but what contains aloes; yet we know that hemorrhoidal persons cannot bear aloes, except it be in the form of

COCKLE'S PILLS,

which chiefly consist of aloes, scammony, and colocynth, which I think are formed into a sort of compound extract, the acidity of which is obviated, I suspect, by an alkaline process, and by a fourth ingredient (unknown to me) of an aromatic tonic nature. I think no better and no worse of it for its being a patent medicine. I look at it as an article of commerce and domestic convenience, and do not hesitate to say it is the best made pill in the kingdom—a muscular purge, and a mucous purge, and a hydrogogue purge, combined, and their effects properly controlled by a dirigent and corrigent. That it does not commonly produce hemorrhoids, like most aloetic pills, I attribute to its being thoroughly soluble, so that no dissolved particles adhere to the mucous membrane."

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roughly cleansing the skin—the pores of which, from our habits of clothing, &c., is unable to become stopped, thus obstructing the escape of the fluids before alluded to, and inducing a numerous class of diseases; indeed, three-fourths of those with which mankind is afflicted are attributable to this cause alone; the fluids known as sensible and insensible or gaseous perspiration, being as unfit to be thrown back upon the system, to be used a second time, as is the air which has been once ejected from the lungs, which, it is well known, cannot be breathed again and again without becoming destructive to health, and very speedily even to life itself; and these fluids must be thrown back if nature be resisted in her efforts to dispose of them, which, in civilised life, is unquestionably the case; hence arise indigestion, headache, loss of appetite, languor or debility, stupor, restlessness, faintings, evil forebodings, inaptitude for business or pleasure, and those diseases already enumerated, which the savage knows not of; these may be mostly, if not entirely, obviated by proper attention to the state of the skin. And here it should be remarked, how erroneous is the notion entertained by many, that when they have washed themselves, or taken a bath, that everything necessary has been done—the fact being, that water will have little or no effect in dissolving the incrustation, so to speak, of the dried or obstructed perspiration. It is therefore recommended that a little of the Medicated Cream be used daily, or at all events before washing or taking a bath.

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